Scrap Book

1944 1945

Clipping Book
of the

California History and Landmark
Section of the

Arcadia Woman Club.

Founded by Mrs. Emilie M. Tennenhoff.

This year we studied California Indians
Famous Adobes and Ranchos of California

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Los Angeles Times

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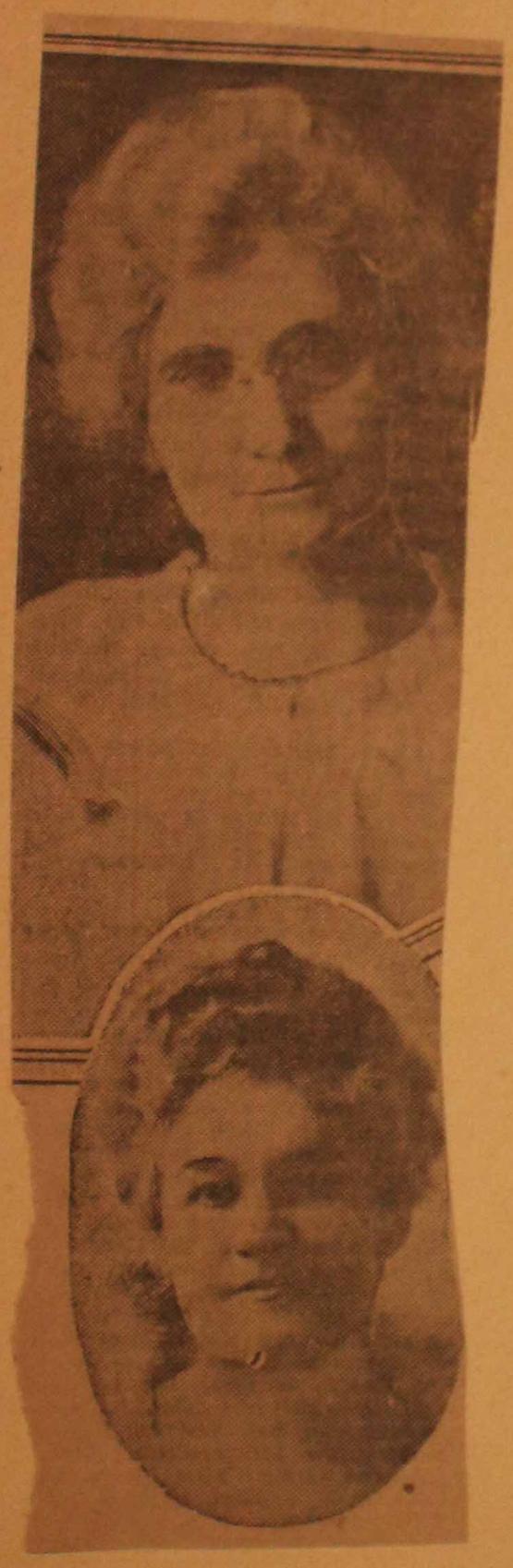


*CLUBWOMEN who will be active in entertainment of California Federation of Women's Club convention pilgrims, when the latter arrive here to celebrate the twenty-first anniversary of their organization May 2. Above, left, Mrs. William Mabee (C. ELmore Grove photo) ;center, Mrs. Emilie M. Tiimerhoff (Witzel photo). Below, at left, Mrs. Charles Toll, (Kucher photo), and right, Mrs. Sydney Thomas Exley (Witzel photo).*

This is to certify that the
History and Landmarks Section
of the ARCADIA WOMAN'S CLUB

is entitled to all the
rights and privileges of
1944-45 Annual Membership in the
California State Historical Association

Dated 10/31/44

Director

Juliet Rensehausen

Chairman

1944-1945

Los Angeles Times
HOME
• A MAGAZINE FOR THE HOUSE AND GARDEN

JANUARY 14, 1945

# Santa Anita Adobe

BY CLARENCE CULLIMORE

TEN years before the admission of California to the Union in 1850 and about a hundred years before part of it became a fashionable race track a cagey young Scotchman, Hugo Reid, set his calculating eye on the oak-studded valley and rolling hills that comprise Santa Anita Rancho.

In this thrifty foreigner's application for a Mexican grant to this superb piece of Southern California real estate, then a part of the San Gabriel Mission holdings, he referred to it as "a parcel of worthless property." Only 23 when he arrived in California, Hugo had a knack for working fast. He became a Mexican citizen, embraced the Catholic religion, assuming the baptismal name of Perfecto Hugo Reid, and married an Indian maid, Victoria, of the Mission San Gabriel. All of this materially strengthened his claim to the land in question.

Coincident with his request for the land grant, without waiting for customary formalities, the impetuous youth, feeling the keenness of Southern California's already-present housing shortage, took possession of the property and started to build an adobe house, developed a small farm and planted a vineyard. This was in 1839. It was not until April 16, 1841, that the 13,000 "worthless" acres of Santa Anita land finally were granted to him.

The house was built on high ground at the southeast corner of a cienega or lake fed by natural springs, later known as Santa Anita Lake. From the open porch of the adobe there was an unobstructed view of the Sierra Madre Mountains.

Subsequent to Reid's ownership the property passed to Henry Dalton for the purchase price of 20 cents an acre. Santa Anita was then sold to Joseph Rowe; thence to Albert Dibble and William Corbitt. William Wolfskill became the next owner. He is said to have planted there the first eucalyptus trees in the Los Angeles area, the seeds having been sent to him by an Australian friend. Harris Newmark bought the place in 1872 and three years later found a purchaser in Elias Jackson (Lucky) Baldwin.

Santa Anita was now due for extensive developments and the erection of a number of elaborate frame buildings.

Its earthy simplicity probably caused it to be overlooked in the general shuffle of overadornment. Some enterprising carpenter did, however, get up courage to make some additions and do a little remodeling. A wooden wing was added, porches were removed and the roof changed. Wood facings were placed on the two-foot door and window reveals, and molded millwork and trim, typical of conservative Yankee practice in carpentry, were added. The result was a fusion of western adobe construction with refinements from the eastern seaboard, giving this landmark an air of revived gentility.

HAROLD PETERSEN

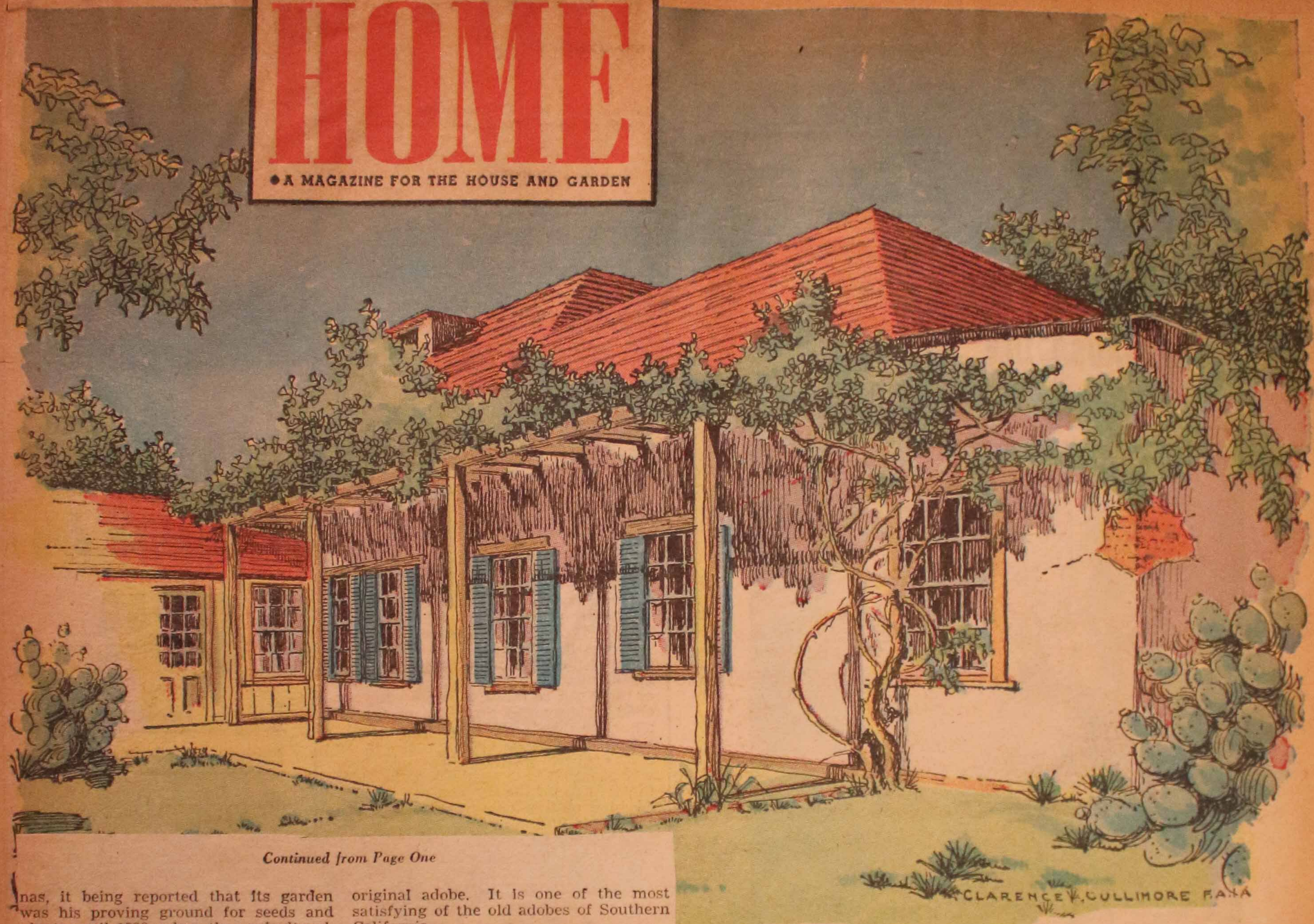
a pageant of Early California
written & directed by Mrs. Turnerhoff
and presented by members of the
California History and Land-Mark Section

A trip to Parker Lyons Pony Express Museum

Members of Section

Elsie Minfelt Visitor Helen Lumpkin
Parker Lyon. Mabel Hoover. Mrs. Immerhoff
Cline Hoffman. Irene Stoker. Florence Huffy
Ethel Prentiss. Susan Rice

Los Angeles Times
HOME
• A MAGAZINE FOR THE HOUSE AND GARDEN



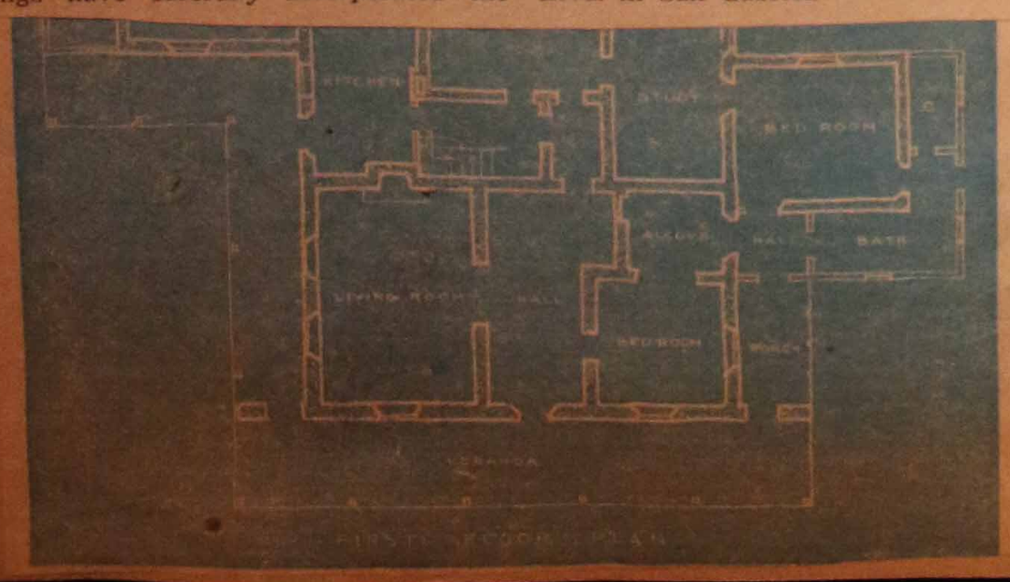

*Continued from Page One*

nas, it being reported that its garden was his proving ground for seeds and plants until 1826, when the agriculturally minded padre was transferred to San Juan Capistrano.

Although the first 75 years of Las Tunas adobe have left little authentic record of its various architectural changes, there is definite information regarding it since 1852, when Jessie I. Hildreth first lived there. It was then that some of the floors of the house were tiled and others remained of packed earth. The living-room fireplace was built in about 1853. The east and west wings were added by Volney E. Howard in 1861. The rest of the house retained its flat roof of crushed tule and tar, which is still in evidence in parts of the attic. The shingle roof and stairway were added in about 1867. In 1880 Las Tunas Rancho, which then consisted of 672 acres, was purchased by Gervaise Purcell. In 1926 Mrs. Purcell, his widow, divided the attic into two rooms and a bath and added dormer windows. With this exception it is now very much the same in plan and detail as when acquired by the Purcell family 64 years ago. The later additions and remodelings have carefully incorporated the original adobe. It is one of the most satisfying of the old adobes of Southern California.

The hand-grooved porch rafters, adzed timbers and remnants of brea tell of its early period. The interior molded trim, staircase balustrade and fireside details recall a later time, when sturdy Yankee citizens came to live in California haciendas. Then keen-eyed Americans married dark-eyed senoritas and to the seductiveness of the California adobe architecture was added the vigor of Colonial New England. The old house, quaint and picturesque, does not pretend to be anything but homelike. It has served its purpose well for many generations and is still a charming, livable home, which does not go in and out of style but possesses a romantic charm and sturdy character that, unlike a dress or hat, may be in fashion for two centuries or more. It is this undated characteristic, together with a sincerity of construction and lack of unnecessary ornamentation, that gives the old adobe houses of California their common bond with the best homes of today.

Las Tunas adobe is situated on Mission Blvd. in San Gabriel.




# San Gabriel's Oldest Adobe

BY CLARENCE CULLIMORE

THE American Revolution on our eastern seaboard was gaining momentum at the time the patient padres of the Spanish settlement of San Gabriel welcomed the permanent settlers, led by the stalwart, intrepid pioneer, Juan Bautista de Anza. By comparison, the harrowing desert adventures incident to the Anza journey for the colonization of California make the trials of the good ship Mayflower on its way to Plymouth seem trivial.

The arrival of these settlers in California in January, 1776, gave rise to the first of Southern California's housing problems. Mud for the adobe bricks, that were to be sun-baked, was not rationed; neither was there priority on roof timbers, that might be got for the pains of wresting them from the primeval forest. Brea or tar for packing earthen floors was had without asking but must be hauled in casks on muleback from La Brea pits, where western Los Angeles now stands. It was soon discovered that this same brea made an excellent frosting for the layer of chocolate earth that usually capped the flat roofs and served to turn the water from the soil topping, preventing leaks, on those occasions when the California weather took an "exceptional" turn.

It was about this time that an early house of the padres, Las Tunas adobe at San Gabriel, one of the few of that period still extant in California, was built. The present mission church was not begun until some time later.

The aura of those bygone days that emanates from the hoary walls of this old adobe, steeped in the traditions of California for more than a century and two-thirds, may seem to be a far cry, now that all our efforts are directed toward the winning of a war. Yet that almost forgotten era when the early pioneers of Latin blood erected their missions and their bastions on the Pacific Slope leaves impressive memories that surround the adobe houses of the early dons and the padres from Spain. These are more cherished than subsequent recollections of a later war, a century ago, when the justice of the Yankee cause was not unmixed with Anglo-Saxon concern for the development of vast and fertile lands.

The story goes that Las Tunas, or the Cactus, was so named on account of a cactus hedge about 20 feet high and 50 feet thick, that surrounded the place, whose prickly spines kept the cattle in and the Indians out. Only the three southerly rooms of this many-times-remodeled adobe house were built by the padres. The massive walls fashioned from the soil underfoot were a direct expression of the people who built them. No historic style hid the genuine and sturdy character. Low ceilings, broad wall surfaces and deeply revealed door and window openings were inherent to the adobe style.

The name of Padre Jose Maria Zalvidea has been associated with Las Tu-

*Continued on Page Four*

# The Two Verdugo Adobes

CASA ADOBE DE SAN RAFAEL — GLENDALE

BY CLARENCE CULLIMORE

ILLUSTRATIONS BY AUTHOR

HORRORS of bumpy plaster, massive arches and a riot of color cluttering the California countryside so distress serious-minded newcomers from Down East, Up North, Iowa or the Deep South that they may feel justified in forgetting the whole Spanish heritage and turn to some more conservative influence emanating from Cape Cod, if not succumbing to the modern pseudoscientific fashion when casting about for ideas for a postwar home in California.

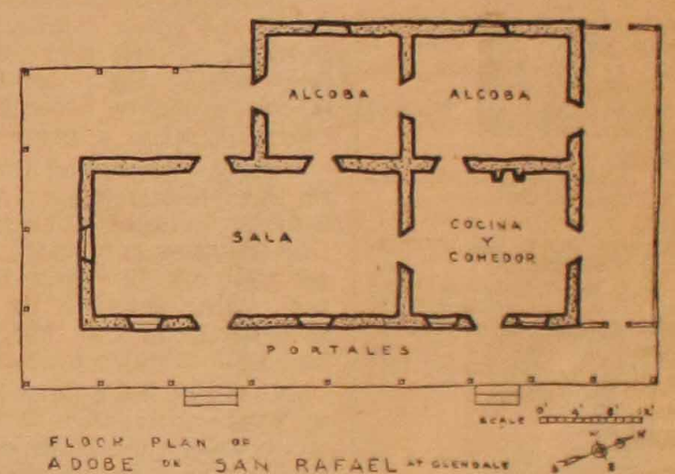
The alternative, and a good one, is for the prospective home owner to get down to earth or hire a good architect to uncover the admirable characteristics, almost forgotten, of the genuine Spanish adobe houses of Early California. These old houses, without slightest resemblance to the modern Spanish masqueraders, will prove to be an inspiration for a type of house that fits perfectly not only the background of the Pacific Slope but also requirements of life today.

Use of soil as a building material by the patient pioneers from Spain effected a quality of architecture particularly suited to the landscape and the people of California. The best architecture seems, in a sense, to grow out of the locality where it is produced. Adobe architecture belongs to the red-clay hills of California, for it is out of such earth that it was created.

The two remaining Verdugo adobes are more than interesting relics of a romantic bygone age. Their simple lines, logical construction and lack of unnecessary ornamentation contrast with the so-called Spanish houses of today.

Senorita Catalina, blind daughter of Jose Maria Verdugo, spent her declining days with her favorite nephew Teodoro and his family in the old adobe house that still stands near the spring at the foot of the green Verdugo hills. The pleasant place is called the Catalina adobe in remembrance of her.

It is not certain which of the Verdugos selected the spot or when the house was built. Catalina's father had been a valiant "leather jacket" serving the Spanish Crown and captain of the guard at Mission San Gabriel when in 1784 the 36,000-acre Rancho San Rafael was granted to him as a reward for faithful military service. Yes, it was California's first soldier's bonus, but a small one compared to some that were granted later. About one-third of it was fertile land upon which there has arisen the cities of Eagle Rock, Burbank, Glendale and part of Los Angeles. The remaining two-thirds consists of mountain land which has not been developed.




FLOOR PLAN OF ADOBE DE SAN RAFAEL AT GLENDALE

Jose Maria Verdugo died in April 1831, and his body was borne for burial to his beloved Mission San Gabriel. His great Rancho San Rafael he willed to his two children, Julio and Catalina, and life on the rancho flowed on, singularly unaffected by the death of its first owner under the patriarchal management of Julio, who, with his sister, owned it in common down to the time of the American conquest. With Congress' creation of the Land Commission, Julio and Catalina presented their claim to Rancho San Rafael—this was in 1852, four years after California became a part of the United States—and their claim was confirmed three years later.

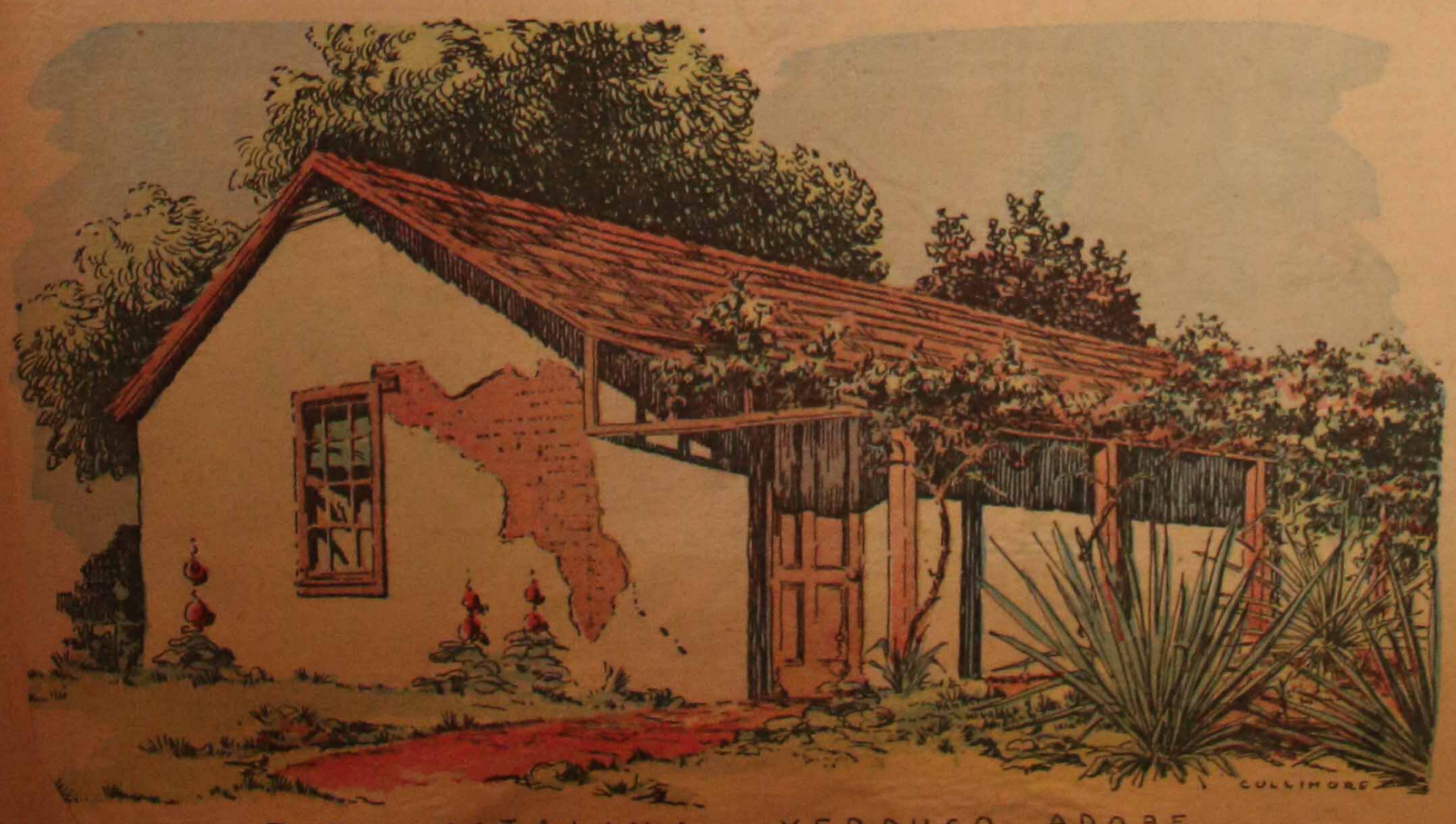
THE brother and sister made an equal division of the Rancho between them in 1861, obeying their father's wishes, Julio taking the southern portion, Catalina the northern. Both of them appear to have sold portions of the estate. The boundaries of the tracts were never clearly defined. In the early days, real estate was measured with a rawhide riato. The first recorded description of the San Rafael adobe mentioned it as being "four leagues from Los Angeles across the river."

The indefinable boundaries and the fact that both Julio and Catalina had contracted many unwise debts, led finally to the "great partition" of 1870, one of the most famous land cases in California history, by which the greater part of the land passed out of the possession of the Verdugos entirely.

After the partition Rancho San Rafael was no longer a Verdugo ranch. What was left to the Verdugo family gradually melted away before the invasion of newcomers and creditors. The various adobes that dotted the great ranch tumbled into ruin and oblivion, except those of Teodoro and Maria Sepulveda de Sanchez.

In the early days the Verdugos had built several adobe houses. The only other one extant is the San Rafael adobe, now included in a Glendale municipal park and cherished as a historical monument. In 1872, 100 acres of the Verdugo property was deeded to Maria Sepulveda Sanchez, a descendant of the original grantee, and here she and her husband, Tomas Sanchez, a colorful Sheriff of Los Angeles County, made their home.

The San Rafael adobe, a simple California ranch house set in a garden harmonizing with its character, is located at 1330 Dorothy Drive, Glendale. The Catalina Verdugo adobe is situated at 1715 Camulos Ave., Glendale, west of Canada Drive.




THE CATALINA VERDUGO ADOBE

Los Angeles Examiner

San Juan Capistrano, California mission where the swallows have for over a century and a half sought sanctuary in the shadows on the selfsame day each year. *Painted by Bernard Lamotte for the De Beers Collection.*

Los Angeles Times

**OUR MELLOW PAST**

In 1854, the year Sacramento became our State capital, the Sacramento Union published a booklet, "The Idle and Industrious Miner," which is a California classic comparable to "The Drunkard." It is a narrative poem showing how the industrious miner prospers and the idle miner wastes his life, and the 19 illustrations by Charles Nahl, a noted artist drawn from Paris to Sacramento by the gold rush, are priceless. The Ghost Town News, published by Knott's Berry Farm, has republished this treasure, and many a lover of California history will rejoice in a copy of it.



## LOWER COACHELLA VALLEY RECEIVES COLORADO WATER

INDIO, April 2.—The first water from the Colorado River to come by the All-American Canal today was entering the lower end of the Coachella Valley. Valley residents see in it the promise of a new agricultural era dawning for this area. The completion of the canal to a point east of Indio is expected by next March.

The water had completed the 87-mile course from Coachella turn-out in the Imperial Valley to Mortmar, just south of Mecca, and at the northern end of the Salton Sea. Besides seasoning part of the canal, the water now is available to aid in construction of the 20-mile link now under way.

Los Angeles Times

### By Lee Shippey

SACRAMENTO.—Dispatches from Okinawa told that for the first time Japanese invasion currency had been issued to our troops invading that island, but they didn't tell that the Jap currency had been printed at the State printery in Sacramento. For months Sacramento has been wondering why so many [illegible] were

Continued from First Page

## ERRING MEN REHABILITATED

Wing D. Privileges are fewest there, but good behavior brings transfer and other rewards.

Trained interviewers soon get his story—his "beefs," background and record, and lay them before Kennedy's assignment board of officers for classification.

Then work, study and play, if they rate it, begin the process of salvation—always with rewards for good performance.

[illegible] this 2000 x 1000 foot quad-

Los Angeles Times

## Leeside o' L.A.

### By Lee Shippey

Lee: Recently you mentioned "Lucky" Baldwin's great love of trees, which even his biographer failed to mention. I worked on Rancho Santa Anita 45 years ago and was amazed to see big sycamores and oaks growing in the citrus groves. Every one caused a heavy loss in fruit and most ranchers would have removed them. Oaks were so thickly strewn over the grainfields that the teamsters who guided the six-horse plow teams among them fervently cursed them. At that time "Lucky" was in such financial difficulties that he was always in debt to us employees. My pioneer father told me that the lands adjacent to "Lucky's" had all been well timbered but the other landowners had destroyed the trees.

DIX VAN DYKE.

Everyone who admires the beauty of the Oaks district connecting Arcadia and Sierra Madre can thank "Lucky" Baldwin for his love of trees. Mr. Van Dyke, incidentally, now has a ranch at Daggett, in the Mojave Desert, on which he has planted and raised thousands of ornamental trees. And surely he that raiseth trees in the desert is a benefactor to mankind. Van Dyke says his love of trees was inspired by the often-calumniated "Lucky."

Los Angeles Times

### By Lee Shippey

Ralph H. Cross of San Francisco is spending some weeks here because of a hobby which is growing into a book—the history of the early inns of California, beginning with the Portsmouth House, the first hotel in San Francisco, opened in 1846, and extending only till 1869. "Between 1840 and 1869," says Mr. Cross, "two things happened in California which had never before been equaled in their lines. There was more teaming by horses and more erection of hotels. Literally thousands of hotels were built in cities and by the wayside. The corrals adjoining the hostelries often were the advertised features. Stage and water transportation routes were punctuated by them as bus line routes now are punctuated by eateries, but the distances between them were much shorter. Some of them were operated by bandits and others co-operating with them. Phillips' Mountaineer Home near Auburn was the haven of the bandit known as Tom Bell, and Phillips served in prison for harboring the Bell gang." The Pico House, the Bella Union and the United States hotels in Los Angeles are among those, the histories of which will be in the book. Mr. Cross would like to get in touch with anyone who knows the stories of other Southern California hostelries—not rooming-houses or saloons—antedating 1869.

Los Angeles Times

Times photo

**TO RING ANEW**—James Tierney examines one of the old bells of the San Fernando Mission, soon to be installed in an exact reproduction of the old bell tower.

# SAN FERNANDO MISSION BELLS TO SOUND AGAIN

SAN FERNANDO, March 31. The old bell tower of the San Fernando Mission, symbolic of the romance of early mission days, is being restored exactly in accordance with the original design. A concrete cap has been placed over the old foundation and work on the tower has started. M. R. Harrington, curator of the Southwest Museum, is supervising the building.

The tower is to be of adobe brick, with walls more than a foot thick. It will be approximately 18 feet by 22 feet at the base and will rise 25 feet to the eaves of the southwest corner of the church.

Most of the work is being done by James Tierney of San Fernando, an artist in this type of construction.

Two of the original bells are ready to be placed in the tower. The largest is more than 34 inches in diameter, the other about 28 inches. The third original bell is not available but will be replaced, Harrington said.

Los Angeles Times

# Prehistoric Pot Yields Store of Indian Seeds

JACUMBA, May 7.—Proof that prehistoric Indian Victory gardeners knew their vegetables has been unearthed in a mountain cave near here by Happy, the old man of the mountain, it was learned here today.

Happy, known by no other name and looking somewhat like a cousin of Buffalo Bill, is a professional pot hunter whose ceramic finds have been of value to museums. He roams the peninsular range along the western edge of the Colorado Desert, poking under ledges and into caves in quest of earthen water and storage ollas, cooking pots and anything else early Americans might have hidden.

**Seeds Preserved**

He made a rich find of three large storage ollas and a cooking pot, all made of clay, four miles northwest of here. Corncobs in the large vessels had been stripped of grain by rodents.

A stone slab protected contents of the cooking pot, and when Happy removed the stone lid he uncovered nine species of seed, each carefully wrapped in a separate packet.

Happy knows his Indian pots, but he is not an authority on gardening, so he sought help.

**Seeds Identified**

Dr. H. L. Mason of University of California herbarium and Dr. George Carter of Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, Md., identified the seeds as flour corn of the early Colorado-Gila River type, both brown and white types of a tepary bean, a thick squash characteristic of the Southwestern cushaw, and a flat, wavy-edged squash, "exact type unknown;" a small, plump pumpkin; a cantaloupe of unusual size and shape "may have been the type introduced by Father Kino in 1686;" two types of watermelons, a sorghum cultivated, the authorities say, for food, sweet juices and forage, and a packet each of wheat and of barley.

**RICH FIND**—Happy, Jacumba mountain wanderer, holds ancient Indian pot containing packets of seeds.

Los Angeles Times

## Verdugo Once Was Berdugo

As late as 1860 Los Angeles courts and Los Angeles natives insisted in spelling Jose Maria Verdugo's last name "Berdugo", old documents found by the Federal Writers' Projects disclosed. In Spanish there is not much difference in the sound of the consonants. Verdugo, owner of the great ranch San Rafael area, in the corner of which is the city of Glendale, died in 1832. He made his will in 1828, signing it "Verduge." Verdugo Boulevard, which runs through the eastern end of Glendale, is so spelled.

## Postal Stamp Asked to Honor State Flag

SACRAMENTO, Jan. 17. (U.P.) — The United States Postoffice Department today was asked in a resolution by State Sen. Herbert W. Slater, (D.), Santa Rosa, to issue a stamp commemorating the centennial on June 14, 1946, of the raising of the first Bear Flag in California.

The centennial is to be celebrated at Sonoma and the Senate resolution asked the Postoffice Department to arrange for Sonoma to be the initial place of cancellation of the stamp.

## Daughter of Early Settlers Passes

Mrs. Catherine Mills Gladney, 80, a daughter of California pioneers who settled in Sacramento in 1851, died yesterday at 534 Friendship Ave., Pico, where she had lived since 1904.

Born in Sacramento in 1865, she was the daughter of Charles W. Menke, an associate and friend of John Augustus Sutter and John Marshall, who first discovered gold in the West.

Mrs. Gladney leaves five sons and daughter, all by a former marriage. Bert and Arthur L. Mills of Tucson; Carl, Ronald V. and Alfred P. Mills, and Mrs. Carl A. Leppold, all of Los Angeles.

A rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. tomorrow in Edwards Bros. Colonial Chapel. Requiem mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday in St. Mary's Church, Whittier, followed by interment in Calvary Cemetery, Los Angeles.

## First Queen of Fiesta Dies

Mrs. Suzanne Bate Childs, widow of Ozro William Childs II, a Los Angeles pioneer, and the daughter of the late U.S. Sen. William Brimage Bate of Tennessee, died Friday at the Good Samaritan Hospital.

Known as the first queen of the Fiesta of Los Angeles nearly 50 years ago, she was prominent socially. Her husband, the son of the wealthy pioneer by the same name, died here in 1933 at the age of 66.

She leaves a daughter, Miss Emeleen Bate Childs, of 339 N. Detroit St. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

Los Angeles Times

Times photo

**HISTORIC LANDMARK**—Restoration of the adobe walls of Pio Pico, home of the last Governor of California under Mexican rule, is progressing. Shown on veranda are Harriette Connors, left, and Dolores Alvarado Connors, hostess. Workman is Frank Gutierrez.

# Pio Pico Work of Restoration Shows Progress

PICO, Sept. 29.—Restoration work is progressing on the old Pio Pico mansion, 2718 Whittier Blvd., which, when completed, will make the historic home of the last Governor of California under Mexican rule a replica of the mansion as it stood in the days of the dons.

Work of restoring the home is being done by the State and is under supervision of Frank L. Gutierrez and Mrs. Dolores Alvarado Connors, hostess of the mansion and also its historian.

**Started in 1909**

First attempts at restoration were started in 1909 by the Pico Historical Society, but it was not until the State took over that it was found possible to bring it to a successful completion.

Walls of the building are being reinforced with iron tie rods, doors and windows being straightened and floors repaired.

Some of the old adobe bricks have become loosened and are being secured with cement. They are generally well preserved, according to Gutierrez, and very few have been cracked.

**Damaged by Flood**

Originally the mansion had 22 rooms, but 16 were swept away in the flood of 1867. At present there are 12 rooms and the building now fronts the east instead of west as originally.

When the mansion was built remains a question which Mrs. Connors doubts if anyone can answer, but she sets the date somewhere between 1835 and 1840. She is a grandniece of Don Pico's wife and authority on the family's history. She and her daughter Henriette, who teaches in Pico, live on the mansion site.

Times photo

**HISTORIC HOME**—Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Harrington hold antique "Talavera" in front of plaque stating history of old Pico mansion in San Fernando to which they have returned to celebrate its 111th anniversary.

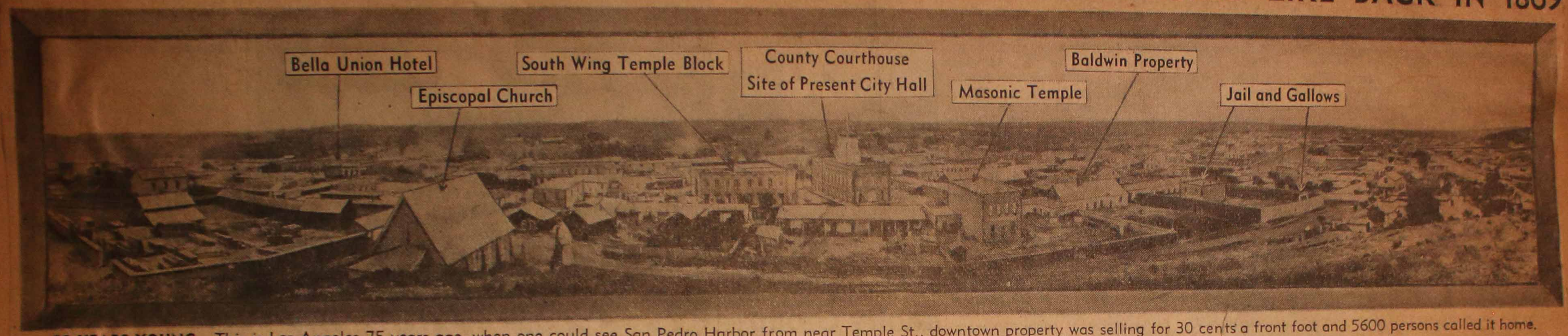
# *Owners Return to Pico Mansion*

*SAN FERNANDO, April 18.—Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Harrington have moved back into their home, the historic old Pico mansion, in time to celebrate its*

nian, with foot-thick adobe walls, redwood beams and staircases, and the wide porch, known as the "portal," extending across the front. There is a patio in

Los Angeles Times

# PANORAMIC PICTURE OF LOS ANGELES SHOWS WHAT CITY LOOKED LIKE BACK IN 1869




**88 YEARS YOUNG**—This is Los Angeles 75 years ago, when one could see San Pedro Harbor from near Temple St., downtown property was selling for 30 cents a front foot and 5600 persons called it home.

## Santa Fe Trail Revival Sought

An interstate movement to restore the name and perpetuate the historic significance of the old Santa Fe Trail, pioneers' road to the western frontier terminating at El Monte, will be launched tomorrow when Supervisor William A. Smith, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, presents a resolution for board action.

The resolution will call upon the County Surveyor and the county's street-naming committee to contact California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Kansas communities to enlist their co-operation in the movement.

"There is no road of more historic interest than the old Santa Fe Trail," Smith said yesterday. "Modern highways under various names now follow the old trail which ran from Independence, Mo., to Santa Fe, N.M., and later was extended to the banks of the Rio Hondo at El Monte.

"It would be to the interest of all localities through which the old trail passed to have its original name restored."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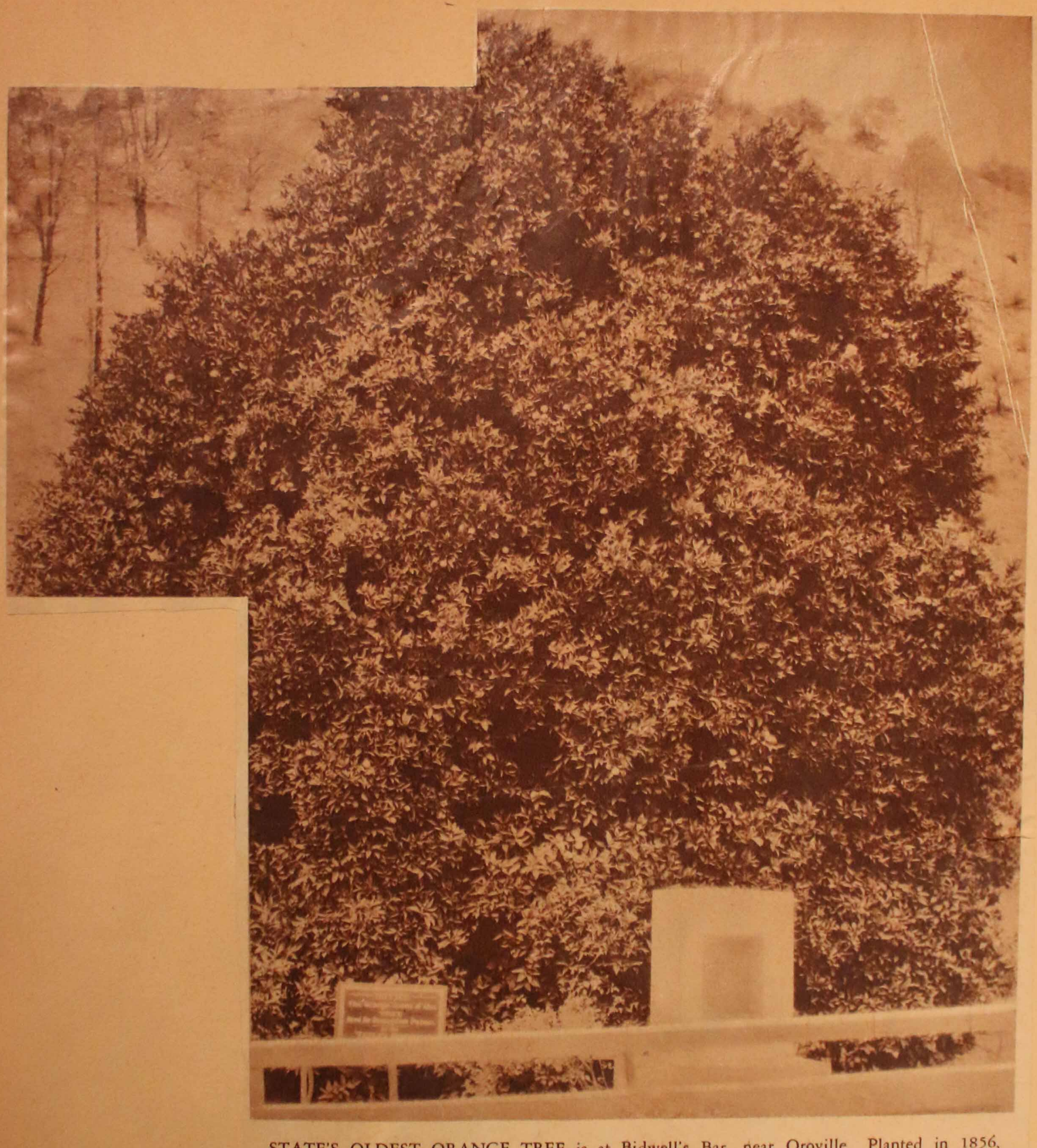
are not only scarce now, but may be most difficult to find as desirable as those now offered in a post-war building activity.

released the day after, would you have a building site ready to start construction of your new home?

Los Angeles Times



STATE'S OLDEST ORANGE TREE is at Bidwell's Bar, near Oroville. Planted in 1856, it is 35 feet high and five feet eight inches in circumference, and annually bears more than a ton of fruit. Photo and data by Mrs. Gladys Collier, 5555 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles.

Arcadia News

Times photo

**MISSING**—Hal Roach, Arcadia publisher, points to boulder in Santa Anita Park, from which "meanest thief" pried bronze plaque commemorating 100th anniversary of Spanish grant which covered early Lucky Baldwin rancho.

# Historical Site Marker Stolen

ARCADIA, Jan. 25.—Police here are seeking the thief who last week-end stole a bronze plaque from its granite boulder mooring in Santa Anita Park.

Four years ago, under auspices of the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce historical department, the 100th anniversary of the original Spanish land grant made to Hugo Reid was celebrated. A plaque in commemoration was placed on a boulder in the park grounds, on which are located the former residence of E. J. (Lucky) Baldwin as well as the old adobe built by Hugo Reid more than a hundred years ago.

The plaque was located on the approaches to the old adobe at the east end of the grounds.

Los Angeles Times

## Early Stagecoach Stop Sold

SACRAMENTO, Jan. 3. (U.P.)—Sale of Kyburz Resort in El Dorado County, originally a stagecoach stop between Virginia City and California, was announced here tonight.

Known during the gold rush as Johnson Station, the site was purchased in 1885 by Samuel Kyburz, who was Capt. John A. Sutter's head clerk when James Marshall discovered gold near Coloma in 1848.

The new owners are Edward M. Norton and Howard I. Lidster, Sacramento business men.

Los Angeles Times

## Parts of Original Sutter Mill Found

SACRAMENTO, Dec. 16. (INS)—Belief was expressed today that parts of the original Sutter Mill where gold was discovered in California nearly 100 years ago, have been unearthed during improvement of the gold discovery site.

The State Division of Beaches and Parks reported that among the discoveries were an old blacksmith vise, a 10-inch wheel and several large timbers, one being a foot square by 53 feet long, and "it is presumed these were all parts of the original Sutter Mill."

Arcadia News

# Area Landmarks to Be Preserved

Numerous early-day locations in and near Pasadena today had been officially listed for permanent recognition by the Historical Landmarks Committee of Los Angeles County.

At a recent meeting of the Historical Landmarks Committee, J. Marshall Miller, city planning director for Pasadena, sponsored the following resolution: "That it is the sense of this body that the Historical Landmarks Committee of Los Angeles County work out a comprehensive plan whereby the organizations and individuals who so desire can co-operate toward marking the more important historical landmarks of this county, including those of Spanish and rancho days; of the period of the conquest in 1846-48; the pioneer Anglo-American institutions as well as the economic and cultural beginnings since that time."

Mr. Miller was active in restoration of the San Diego Mission and Casa Adobe de San Rafael.

A list of nearby early day spots due for permanent recognition follows: Flores Adobe at South Pasadena; end of the Santa Fe Trail at El Monte; Wilson Trail, near Pasadena; site of Easter Service in 1770 (Rancho San Pasqual), South Pasadena; Mission San Gabriel Archangel, San Gabriel; memorial to W. N. Monroe, founder of Monrovia, at Monrovia; memorial fountain for old Mount Wilson Toll Road; site of discovery of gold in San Gabriel Canyon; E. J. Baldwin's Queen Anne's Cottage at Rancho Santa Anita; and Hugo Reid Adobe, Rancho Santa Anita, Arcadia.

So. Angeles Times

# California's First State Election

BY ROCKWELL D. HUNT

Exactly one month after the day the first California Constitutional Convention had completed its labors and under highly dramatic conditions had signed the Constitution, the first California State election was held. It was Tuesday, Nov. 13, 1849—and a dismal day it was, because the heavy rains brought swollen streams and muddy roads in every direction.

The election was held as planned, in good American fashion. Special interest was taken by the native Californians, who experienced a thrill as they cast their first free ballot. Despite the forbidding weather there was a total vote on the adoption of the Constitution of 12,872, with a majority for adoption of 15 to 1. In Los Angeles the vote stood 315 to 17; in San Francisco, 2051 to 5.

Peter H. Burnett was elected Governor by 6783 votes, almost three times the number received by his nearest competitor. John McDougal was chosen Lieutenant Governor; George W. Wright and Edward Gilbert were elected Representatives to Congress.

**LEGISLATURE MEETS**

The first Legislature of the incipient State, comprising 36 members in its two chambers, met in San Jose Saturday, Dec. 15, 1849. Five days later the two houses assembled for the purpose of electing two United States Senators. John C. Fremont was elected on the first ballot and William M. Gwin on the second.

Under date of March 12, 1850, the four men elected to Congress (Wright, Gilbert, Fremont and Gwin) issued a long memorial addressed "To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America assembled," requesting "in the name of the people of California, the admission of the State of California into the American Union." Referring to the election of the preceding November, this memorandum states as follows:

"The winter rains commenced several days before the 13th of November, and on that day one of the worst storms ever experienced raged throughout the whole country. The consequence was, notwithstanding the personal exertions of the friends of the different candidates for popular favor, that only about 15,000 votes were polled . . . It is believed that there never was an election attended with less excitement. The sentiment in favor of the Constitution was nearly unanimous and was entirely the result of the unbiased and deliberate opinions of those who were most interested in it. No attempt was made to mislead or control public opinion in relation to the Constitution. No candidate sought success by either an ardent advocacy of its merits or a broad denunciation of any of its provisions . . . The truth is, that no political result in the history of any nation is more surely the honest expression of a public opinion founded in reason than the ratification afforded by the people of California to their Constitution."

**REAL ACTIVITY**

Thus was the machinery of the 31st State put in motion. But since California was not formally admitted into the Union until Sept. 9, 1850, was it really a State when Gov. Burnett was inaugurated and the Legislature proceeded to make laws in San Jose? Waiving technicalities, we may declare, yes—to all practical intents and purposes, viewed from a local standpoint, California was a State in December, 1849, almost nine months before that memorable Admission Day. Its government was established in an orderly manner under our first Constitution.

All objections based on legalistic grounds yielded to the "obvious necessities of the case." Important fundamental legislation was enacted: the lawmaking body remained vigorously at work till final adjournment April 22, 1850, many months before knowledge of California's admission reached San Francisco. Today we are happy to record that the devoted activities of the interim were subsequently honored and validated by a grateful people.

So. Angeles Times

## Parts of Original Sutter Mill Found

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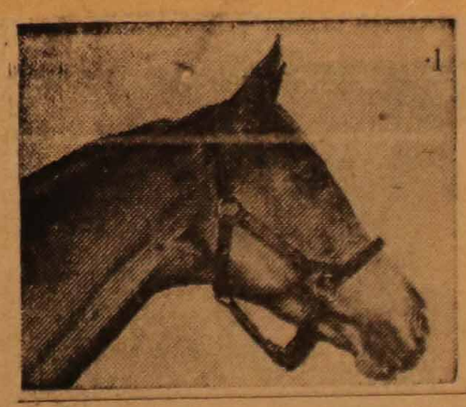
Arcadia Tribune and News



# Cabrillo Discovers Island For Which Handicap Is Named

If racing had not been eliminated in favor of the war effort, and if, therefore, Santa Anita had not had to cancel its carefully laid plans for the 1944-45 meet, then fans would have gathered last Saturday for featured Santa Catalina Handicap which takes its name from the Emerald Isle of the Pacific . . . Santa Catalina Island.

Romantic indeed is the story of Catalina, first discovered by Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo in Oct., 1542, 400 years ago . . . who called it "San Salvador" after his flagship.

It was half century later that Viscaino sailed northward from the western shores of Mexico, cast anchor in what is now Avalon Bay, and with due ceremony gave the island the musical name, "Santa Catalina" in honor of the Saint Day . . . that of Saint Catherine, which was the day of his arrival.

More than two centuries passed and then it was no less than Governor Pio Pico himself who received the royal grant to this Island Domain.

It is a matter of record that Catalina at one time had a real gold boom . . . and silver, too. Lucky Baldwin is rumored to have grub staked the miner who located Silver Canyon.

Through the development of the Wrigleys, Santa Catalina has become a famous playground, featuring sports of all kinds, known to thousands who annually came to its shores . . . in peacetime to bathe in the bluewaters. Known to many in wartime as the base for the Maritime Academy where 3000 men are constantly trained to man our Merchant Fleet.

Arcadia Tribune and News

# San Felipe Stakes Take Name From Famous California Section

Had the race track stayed open, devotees of the sport would now be counting their winnings or losses from the San Felipe Stakes scheduled by Santa Anita for three-year-old colts and geldings for last Saturday. Now, instead, the Stakes are only a name of what might have been, and as all Santa Anita events, its name goes back into the history of early California for its origin.

There are two names in the early history of the state which will forever be synonymous of speeding horses!—The Pony Express and the Overland Stage. Indelibly linked with both is the early Spanish title, San Felipe. It was Juan Bautista de Anza who pioneered the first trail traveled by white man across the great Colorado Desert into California, entering the San Jacinto Mountains from the desert via San Felipe Creek.

Later, Pedro Fages blazed the trail up the valley and over what was to be known as Warner's Pass, thence on to San Diego. This was the route which later became nationally famous as The Emigrant Trail, over which the pioneer Butterfield Stage Line travelled. On Sept. 16. 1857, the Butterfield Overland Mail Company was awarded the contract for the first transcontinental mail and passenger line to California, winning over eight bidders.

The southern route through Yuma and across the Colorado Desert was chosen because it was open the year 'round. St. Louis was selected for the eastern terminus. Stations were erected along the entire route at intervals of about 20 miles where changes of horses were made.

San Felipe Station in Valle de San Felipe, though not the most pretentious, was certainly the most welcome to passengers, drivers and horses. The words of that immortal pioneer plainsman and guide, Kit Carson, who led Gen. Stephen W. Kearny and his "Arm of the West" over the trail to the fatal battle of San Pasqual, tells the story: "Coming up from that earthly inferno—The Desert of Rio Colorado—the cool shade of the giant cotton wods and oaks and the sweet waters of Valle de San Felipe were as welcome to our exhausted troops as the joys of the promised land to those weary souls who have passed through purgatory."

The ruins of the old original adobe stage station still stand on Rancho El San Felipe, title to which was obtained in 1911 by T. I. Duque.

Los Angeles Times

**GOOD OLD DAYS**

In the early days of motoring, an "anti-automobile" society ruled that the motorist, on approaching a team of horses, should stop off the road and cover his machine with a blanket painted to correspond with the scenery, the Automobile Club of Southern California has been told. The society also decreed that the night driver should proceed carefully, blowing his horn and shooting off Roman candles.

Pasadena Star News.

# Romantic History Of Santa Susana

Dipping again into history and remembering that, had the racing continued at Santa Anita last Saturday would have marked the Santa Susana Stakes for three-year-old fillies, it is timely to look at the territory from which the event takes its name. Northerly from Chatsworth, at the upper end of San Fernando Valley, are the Santa Susana Mountains.

It was De Anza who, following an old Indian trail, first led white men through this high narrow defile, surrounded on all sides by huge granite boulders . . . "a place like to the Casa El Diablo . . . therefore it must have the blessings of a Holy Saint."

**Hidden Valley**

While the southeasterly entrance to the pass is very rough and steep, it emerges to the north and west into a beautiful little hidden valley, named by the Indians, "Simi"—The Valley of the Wind."

Entering this valley the trail passed through a large grove of massive oaks, and it was some of these same oak trees, which still remain to guard the trail, which played an important part in ridding California of organized horse stealing.

Here it was that the celebrated code of Governor Pio Pico was established—the code which, as applied to horse stealing, has remained effective, not only in California but throughout the west.

**Horse Stealing Prevalent**

Horse stealing became so prevalent—a large band of organized outlaws, both Indian and renegade whites, making raids from the "Big Valley" (The San Joaquin) over the Santa Susana Pass—that the indignation and anger of Governor Pico was aroused. Calling his aides, he said:

"It is a crafty scoundrel who robs me of my gold—a bold adventurer who lures away my wife—but only a sneaking villain will steal my horse. The courts can deal with the first—I shall seek revenge from the second—but of the last, they shall be dealt with as the evil dogs they are . . . They shall have the lesson of a long rieta and a stout limb."

History does not record who led these early day vigilantes, or the names of any witness:—but it does relate that the morning sun cast long shadows across Santa Susana Trail from the ghastly remains of nine horse thieves swinging from the limbs of four great oaks, and from that time on the Code of Pio Pico became a respected law aganist horse stealing.

Los Angeles Times

# Death Calls Jotham Bixby

## Son of Long Beach Pioneer Helped to Develop Community

Jotham W. Bixby, son of Jotham Bixby Sr., who came around the Horn in a windjammer in 1852 to become a Southern California pioneer rancher known as "The Father of Long Beach," died yesterday at Community Hospital, Long Beach.

The millionaire son of the pioneer rancher had played an important part in development of Long Beach residential areas. At his death he was president of the Bixby Land Co. and had extensive holdings.

Los Alamitos and Los Cerritos, two of the homes on the original ranchos which Jotham Bixby Sr. came to manage in 1866 for the Flint and Bixby interests, still remain in the possession of the Bixby family.

**Gifts of Land**

The pioneer's son was the last direct heir of Jotham Bixby Sr., whose original holdings abutted the property on which William Willmore founded the first pioneer colony in the area in 1888.

The elder Bixby and his son were known for the gifts of land which the family had made to the city, including Bixby Park, Pacific (now Lincoln) Park and the site for the Alamitos branch of the Long Beach Public Library. Jotham Bixby Sr. and his wife also donated

Jotham W. Bixby

the land and building for the Long Beach Congregational Church. Part of the original Bixby holdings were purchased by the city for the development of Recreation Park.

**Born in Los Angeles**

Jotham Winslow Bixby, born on a site which is now W. Second St. and S. Broadway, Los Angeles, was educated in Long Beach and at Throop Polytechnic Institute, the predecessor of California Institute of Technology, at Pasadena, Belmont School in Northern California and the Thacher School in the Ojai Valley. He then traveled abroad three years.

Los Angeles Times

# Sepulveda Rites Set for Today

A descendant of one of California's famous early families, who turned from the land of his fathers to boatbuilding, Andrew B. Sepulveda, 68, will be buried today in Holy Cross Cemetery following requiem mass at 8 a.m. in St. Vibiana's Cathedral. He died Friday in General Hospital.

He was the grandson of Don Dolores Sepulveda, who received the 35,000-acre Rancho Los Palos Verdes by grant from the Mexican Republic in 1822. His fafather was Don Juan Sepulveda, who presented the bells to the Plaza Church, and he was a cousin of the late Roman D. Sepulveda.

**Born in Palos Verdes**

Born on the Palos Verdes Estates and baptized and confirmed at the Plaza Church, Andrew Sepulveda was a superintendent of construction for the Southern Pacific Railroad, and later worked for 20 years with Garbutt & Walsh, boatbuilders at San Pedro. Seven years ago he retired and moved to Perris.

He leaves a daughter, Mrs. Shipman Biegler of Burbank, a brother Juan of San Pedro, and two grandchildren, Maryanne and Susan Biegler.

Rosary was recited last night at the Pierce Bros. Mortuary at 720 W. Washington Blvd.

Los Angeles Times

**COLLECTOR** — Mrs. Catarena Lopez Millen of San Fernando with old Indian matate which she collects.

# San Fernando Pioneer Keeps Up Old Home

SAN FERNANDO, Oct. 15.—On the corner of Pico St. and Maclay Ave. there stands a two-story adobe building with an over-hanging balcony—the oldest structure in what is now the central part of this city. Mrs. Catarena Lopez Millen, the owner, has kept the old building as much as possible just as it was in the 1870's when it was built by her uncle, Valentine Lopez.

The house was strengthened and repainted several years ago, but the original colors were matched, and the furniture is the same that has been used for 60 years. Original panes of glass form the windows set in the two-feet-thick adobe walls.

Shelves filled with interesting old books and pieces of bric-a-brac catch the eye. There are two photographs in the parlor, one of Mrs. Millen's grandson, Chester Oswood Penny Jr., now at Annapolis, and the other of her nephew, Maj. James Shaug.

Mrs. Millen's father, Jeronimo Lopez, was the first postmaster here and her maternal grandfather, Pedro Lopez, was majordomo or caretaker of the San Fernando Mission after the Indians had been placed in a reservation in the hills.

Los Angeles Times

# De Portola and Priest Made First Camp in What Became Los Angeles 172 Years Ago Today

## Story of Bivouac in Pre-Pueblo Days Told in Party's Diaries

Los Angeles simply has everything—including two birthdays, the former of which could (but won't) be celebrated today.

The second occurs Sept. 4, anniversary of the formal founding of the pueblo by Felipe de Neve in 1781, or 12 years after Gaspar de Portola, accompanied by Father Crespi, priest and diarist, scuffed their way through the chaparral and mesquite to what is now Los Angeles.

Los Angeles officially observes the Sept. 4 anniversary, but if Angelenos really yearn to celebrate the anniversary of the first arrival by land of white men in their now thriving bailiwick, they'd have to do it today.

**CAMP SITE QUEST**

Yesterday, The Times hunted up the exact (as nearly as possible) spot where Portola, Crespi and their companions made camp that 2nd of August, 1769.

That was 172 years ago today.

Portola had left San Diego July 14, 1769, for Monterey with the intention of founding a presidio and mission at San Carlos. He headed a force of 27 soldiers, 7 Catalan volunteers, Fathers Juan Crespi and Francisco Gomez, 7 muleteers, 15 Christianized Baja Californians and 2 swampers.

Their northward progress is chronicled not only in C[illegible]spi's five im-

**SITE OF EARLIEST BIVOUAC**—Tom P. Hayes, playground director, shows Stella Hernandez, left, Grace Zuniga and Dolores Ferra, right, where Gaspar de Portola, in 1769, pitched the first white man's camp in Los Angeles. The site is east end of N. Spring St. bridge.

Times photo

So. Angeles Times.

# New Complications Develop in County Efforts to Re-Dedicate Site of Old Mill in San Marino

Conditions which developed today were being studied by county authorities in an effort to reach some amicable plan of designating publicly the Old Mill site in San Marino.

It was discovered today that the Old Mill was given an official plaque back in July 8, 1919, by the Martin Severance Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Miss Elizabeth J. Harkness, 450 North Madison Avenue, notified Supervisor Roger W. Jessup today that the 1919 marker had been removed and that the D. A. R., finally obtained possession of it.

Miss Harkness, regent of the Martin Severance Chapter, sent Supervisor Jessup a penciled impression of the plaque which she has in her possession.

"If the Old Mill site is to be marked again, Martin Severance Chapter would like to have its marker re-installed and have a part in ceremonies," Miss Harkness requested.

Supervisor Jessup promised Miss Harkness that her wish would be granted.

However, County Engineer Alfred Jones, ex-officio, chairman of the Land Marks Committee, discovered another complication this morning which may block the intention of the supervisors to re-dedicate the Old Mill site.

Mr. Jones said that the property is now owned by James R. Brehm, 1450 Hillcrest Avenue, Pasadena.

"I talked with Mr. Brehm over the telephone regarding his attitude toward replacing the D. A. R. plaque and having another ceremony," reported Chairman Jones.

"While he doesn't want to appear to be non-co-operative, he's of the opinion that if we had a ceremony and re-established the plaque the matter would get considerable publicity which probably would result in many visitors, including kids in the neighborhood, who might become an annoyance to the tenants of the property.

"He says that people who are really interested in the building from a historical standpoint are welcome to see and inspect the building, but he would not be agreeable to replacing the plaque and having the ceremony at this time."

The plaque reads:

"El Molino, the mill erected by the padres of San Gabriel Mission, 1810. This tablet placed by Daughter of the American Revolution Martin Severance Chapter of Pasadena, 1919."

So. Angeles Times

# ENCINO ASKS STATE AID IN PRESERVING ADOBES

ENCINO, May 22.—1945 After enlisting the support of Leo Carrillo, member of the State Parks Commission, the Encino Historical Committee today announced intentions to appeal for the preservation of the old De la Osa hacienda before that body.

Carrillo, scion of an early California family, who is vitally interested in perpetuating the Southland's landmarks, at a gathering in the home of Jack Pierce, studio executive, expressed an opinion that the adobe structures, built when San Fernando Valley was a fertile pasture land, should not be allowed to fall.

The petition to be read before the commission asks that the State or the city of Los Angeles "purchase and maintain the site" occupying from five to 10 acres and including a lake and natural springs.

William Cory, geologist, who has become interested in the project, appeared before the committee at Canoga Farms last night to show detailed diagrams of the pool and its several hot and cold mineral springs.

Mrs. J. Earl Stewart, chairman of the historical group, said the original plan to convert the two-story building into a town hall and the other adobe into an early California museum will be proposed when the delegation appears before the State commission.

Los Angeles Times *** THURSDAY, MAY 17, 1945

# Historic Adobes Studied for Civic Center Project

## Encino Group Considers Preserving De la Osa Hacienda as Park, Museum and Tourist Mecca

ENCINO, May 16.—While the doom of another Los Angeles County historic landmark hinged today on action of a hastily organized citizens committee and supporting civic groups, plans were being considered here to preserve Encino's picturesque Vincente De la Osa adobes by turning the site into a park and tourist Mecca patterned after Santa Barbara's famous El Paseo de Guerra.

Possibility of converting the two-story dwelling into a community civic center and the adjoining one-story building into an Early California museum resembling the Los Angeles Casa de Adobe was favorably viewed during a mass meeting called after developers had sounded the knell for the old adobes erected in 1851.

**Mineral Pool Described**

Constant Gless, descendant of the Amestoys, who, with his brother Domingo, has been living in the adobe, volunteered the information that the pool, fed by flowing hot and cold mineral springs, is highly curative and that he has found many Indian relics in its vicinity.

Others addressing the group included John Litel and Richard Powers, co-chairmen of the hearing; Mrs. J. Earl Stewart, committee chairman; Mmes. Mattie Labory de Gara and Teresa Bouttier, native daughters; Edward Everett Horton and H. L. Bryan, agent for the property owners who described tentative plans for subdivision.

The plan under consideration includes a town hall and museum, shops, flagstone walkways, a patio and colorful landscaping around the pool and small park.

South land.

*I have had playmates, I have had companions,*
*In my days of childhood, in my joyful school days.*
*—Charles Lamb.*

On that matter of the oldest school in Southern California, Mrs. J. C. Hill of San Dimas has a candidate . . . She nominates the log-cabin Ballena School down by Ramona in San Diego County, built in 1869. It was put up by her mother's father, Wallace Littlepage, after a covered-wagon trip from Texas. Mrs. Hill is one of nine children, all living, who attended the little school. Her oldest sister, Mrs. Allie B. Crothers, lives in Inglewood . . . Can anybody produce a school built before 1869?

So. Angeles Times

**LOOKING BACK**

When Sacramento was selected as the State capital in 1854 it was the center of population in California, lying between the Mother Lode and San Francisco. At that time, they say, there were only 5000 white people south of Tehachapi and the only highways were the trails connecting the missions, those connecting the mining camps with Sutter's Fort, the ocean and the Sacramento River. By ship and river boat Sacramento was closer to Los Angeles than Bakersfield was. It is very different now, but the State has $40,000,000 in public buildings in Sacramento and it looks as if the capital would stay here.

So. Angeles Times

Times photo

**CAMPAIGN ISSUE**—Mrs. Frank Flowers, left, and Mrs. J. Earl Stewart inspect historic 94-year-old De la Osa hacienda whose preservation is to be urged at a mass meeting tonight in Encino. Building and natural lake are in path of proposed development.

# ENCINANS WILL RALLY TO SAVE HISTORIC ADOBE

ENCINO, May 14.—A sleepy little adobe whose crumbling walls and sun-bleached tile roof are mirrored in a natural mineral spring today emerged from comparative obscurity to become the center of a spirited citizens' campaign to save the hacienda from encroaching development.

At a mass meeting called for 8 p.m. tomorrow the Encino Historical Committee, composed of Mrs. J. Earl Stewart, Mrs. Frank Flowers, Mrs. H. H. A. Hastings, John Litel, Edward Everett Horton and Torrence Dodds, will ask that the old ranch house, erected in 1851 by Vicent de la Osa, be purchased by the city or State as a historical park or museum site.

During the hearing to be conducted in the Horton barn at 5521 Amestoy Ave., Mrs. Stewart, representing the committee, will trace the adobe's history from the days of El Rancho Encino, when the land was successively owned by Indians, Spaniards and Basque cattlemen who amassed a fortune in sheep raising there.

**Original Mission Site**

The hacienda also is listed in a handbook of landmarks within 50 miles of Los Angeles' Civic Center. The committee contends that an 8-10-acre site containing the adobe, pool and eucalyptus grove with entrance off Balboa Blvd. marked by age-old olive trees, could be retained for historical purposes without infringing on valuable Ventura Blvd. business frontage.

Many widely known Angelenos who are interested in the landmark's future have been invited to voice opinions during the meeting, among them Leo Carrillo, Supervisor William A. Smith, Mark Harrington, curator of Southwest Museum; Florence Dodson Schoneman of Los Angeles' Casa Adobe, and Florestina Gilbert, granddaughter of De la Osa.

The adobe was marked by Los Angeles Parlor, Native Daughters of the Golden West, on March 21, 1937, and, according to history, the land was originally the site selected by Franciscan padres for the establishment of Mission San Fernando Rey, which finally was built six miles farther north to be nearer the mountain water supply.

So. Angeles Times

County Plans Dedication

# San Marino Old Mill Site Sought as State Landmark

Designation of the Old Mill site in San Marino as an officially registered California State Landmark, was requested by the Board of Supervisors today.

Supervisor Roger W. Jessup instructed the County Historical Landmarks Committee to contact the Division of National Resources of the State of California to obtain a number for the location which played so romantic a part in the early days of the valley.

County Surveyor Alfred Jones, who is ex-officio chairman of the Landmarks Committee, said he believes most of the site now is owned privately and that special permission must be obtained to register it with the state.

Upon obtaining registration, Supervisor Jessup said the county will sponsor dedication ceremonies based upon the historical background of the scene.

One of the dedication speakers is expected to be Lt. Gov. Frederick F. Houser of Alhambra, who as a lad spent many youthful playdays around the Old Mill and the nearby lake. A full historical account of the Old Mill, where the padres and Indians ground their maize, will be prepared for release at the time of dedication.

Los Angeles Times

Times photo

**ENTERTAINED**—City Council President Robert Burns with three of the Olvera Street hostesses who yesterday feted Council members for their interest in the district.

# OLVERA STREET GROUP FETES CITY COUNCILMEN

With traditional Mexican gayety and colorful festivity, the shopkeepers, musicians and entertainers of Olvera Street yesterday feted City Councilmen at a luncheon in the patio behind California's oldest building, the Avila Adobe.

Presented in appreciation of the interest the Council has shown in the welfare of the picturesque Mexican section, the Olvera Street residents entertained throughout the luncheon with music and songs.

Acting as hostess was Mrs. Christine Sterling, "mother of Olvera Street," who expressed gratitude on behalf of her "Olvera Street friends" for the support given by the Council throughout the history of the section.

The shopkeepers presented gifts to each of the Councilmen.

Before adjourning the Council at suggestion of President Robert Burns passed a motion pledging continuing support to Olvera Street. Among those attending were Ira McDonald, Charles A. Allen, George Moore, John Holland, Parley Christensen, Meade McClanahan, J. Win Austin and Charles A. Randall, Council president, 1931 to 1933.

Pasadena Star News

# Gleanings From History

By PERRY WORDEN

## Agua Mansa's Picturesque Finds

### GENERAL PATTON, CHIP OFF WILSON BLOCK

That the near-at-hand is usually of first and foremost appeal, while the more remote is passed over lightly or quite neglected, is shown in the almost numerous "write-ups" of General George Smith Patton, Jr., (already, energetic head of the "Armored Corps," a hero in African campaigning, and now appointed by General Eisenhower as Commander of the American forces in Western Tunisia,) most sketches failing to make clear, if mentioning the matter at all, the San Marinian's enviable relationship, as worthiest grandson, to Benjamin D. Wilson, in time, because of pioneering enterprise, highly honored in having named after him a noble mountain, the glory and pride of beautiful Pasadena and its equally attractive environs. Don Benito Wilson, as he was called, was by nature doughty, and something of a warrior, when put to the test in more than one struggle from his earliest years in the West with savage and brutal humanity; and it is of more than passing interest that, by outstanding virility, he was able to bequeath to a kinsman of succeeding generation such initiative in ability and inspiring valor as seem, in Patton's undaunted leadership, if newspaper reports are true, to have illuminated the somber story of war-torn Tunisia. Some soldier experiences of Wilson he himself told to friends; the following narrative, in his own language, proving he was as good a raconteur as a fiducial fighter.

"In 1845, the Mojave Indians were raiding the ranches in this part of the country, and at the request of Governor Pio Pico, I took command of an expedition to go in their pursuit. Accompanied by some twenty-two of the expedition I organized, I went up the San Bernardino River through the mountains, and crossed over to what is now Bear Lake, which, with an adjoining swamp, seemed alive with bear. My companions, the young Californians, went out in pairs, and each pair brought home a lassoed bear, so that at once we had eleven of the beasts. This prompted me to give the Lake the name it now bears.

"Marching in advance with but one of the company, I saw ahead four Indians coming towards us on the path. My object was not to kill them, but to take them prisoners, that they might give desired information. The leader happened to be the very man I was seeking, the famous marauder, Joaquin, who had been raised as a page of the San Gabriel Mission, and, for his depredations and outlawing, bore on his person the Mission's marks—a cropped-off ear and an iron's brand on his hip. In conversation, Joaquin became convinced that we were on a campaign against him and his people, whereas at first he had taken me for a traveler; and immediately that he discovered the true state of things, he whipped from his quiver an arrow, strung it on his bow, and left nothing for me to do but to shoot him in self-defense. We both discharged our weapons at the same time, wherefore I had no chance to raise my gun to the shoulder, and had to fire straight from my hand.

"Joaquin's shot took effect in my right shoulder, and mine in his heart; the shock of his arrow causing me involuntarily to let my gun drop, while my shot knocked him down, quite bodily disabled. However, he still discharged at me a tirade of abuse such as I have never heard surpassed in the Spanish, which he spoke, or any other language. I was on mule back, but managed to get down to pick up my gun. By this time my command arrived, and I ordered them to capture, if they could, the other three Indians making off over the plains. But the Indians resisted stoutly, refused to the last to surrender, and had to be killed, but not before they had wounded two or three men and several horses. Those three Indians actually fought eighty men in open plain, till they were put to death; and during the fight Joaquin laid on the ground uttering curses against the Spanish and other people.

"I discovered that I was shot with a poisoned arrow, and I had to proceed immediately to the care of my wound. So I rode down some five hundred yards to the river, a Comanche Indian, a trusty man, who had accompanied me from New Mexico to California, alone at my side. The only remedy we knew of was by sucking the poison with the mouth out of the spot where the arrow had entered. Indeed, there is no other remedy known, even now. I have frequently seen the Indians preparing such poison, and observed it was nothing more than putrid meat or liver ,and blood, which they dried into thin sticks, to be carried in leather sheaths. On hunting or campaigning expeditions, they wet their arrows with the sticks; and when too dry, they soften them near the fire. By the time I got to the river, my arm and shoulder were immensely swollen; but Trujillo, my faithful Comanche, sucked the wound, which was extremely painful, and in three or four days the swelling had disappeared and the wound was in a fair way to healing. It never gave me any trouble afterwards, although a small piece of flint was left in the flesh, which I carry to this day. As I was unable to travel while the wound was healing, I kept with me a bodyguard of five men, and sent the rest on down the river, under Enrique Avila, a na-

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tained by Mr. Coze, the floods and silt on the Rio Grande could be controlled on the river's tributaries, whereas a dam at sites proposed would flood the villages and take the Indians' best lands.

Mr. Coze and other friends of the Indians stress the point that the Pueblo Indians have held their land grants for years. They have been recognized as inalienable property by Spain, Mexico and the United States. To take their lands, Mr. Coze points out, would be a poor reward for the services the Indians are doing in the war. Indian enlistments being greater in proportion to their population than those of other groups.

The Indians, Mr. Coze states, have a great attachment for their land where they have resided for centuries, their villages being the oldest inhabited places in the United States. Their land and religion are inextricably bound together. On their lands are sacred springs, altar fires which have burned for years, and hallowed shrines.

# It Happened Around Here

BY DENNIS H. STOVALL

"In all California there is no river more interesting, more important or more mysterious than the Mohave. It's the river that loses itself on the desert. Nobody knows what has become of the oceans of water that have flowed from it in all the hundreds or thousands of years gone by. Certainly, it didn't all evaporate."

**Hidden Lake**

Thus spoke the Old-Timer as we sat together in the warmth of our campfire among the Joshuas. Around us was the purple gloom of night, and over us a million dazzling stars. This gray-bearded wanderer of the trails, whom I infrequently meet on my desert rambles, has the conviction that "a great underground lake" lies beneath the arid basin of the Mohave. I've heard other desert men voice the same notion, basing their fantastic assumption on the idea that since the Mohave river flows into the desert, and has been doing so for centuries, much of it underground, its waters must have sunk into some vast subterranean reservoir.

Dennis H. Stovall

All of which is speculation, but an interesting topic to discuss around a desert campfire.

Not caring to get into a discussion of what happens to the mysterious river, after it loses itself under the sands, I switched the Old-Timer to the real and tangible story of the Mohave.

**Important River**

"I'm still claimin' it's the most important river in Southern California," he insisted. "It marked the frst trail and its sunken channel was the roadway along which the early travelers passed in and out. Way back in 1776 the Spanish priest, Fray Francisco Garces, led a caravan through Mohave canyon on his way from the Colorado to the Mission San Gabriel. But that was before the desert river had been named. Fray Garces, like all those devout padres, set up an altar, held religious service and gave the mysterious river a name, calling it the De los Martires, meaning 'saltish waters.' It was one Spanish name that didn't stick. Must have been too long. Anyhow, when Fremont and his exploring party passed through, almost a hundred years later, the old river was re-Christened, and given an Indian name this time. Fremont called it the 'Mohahve,' usin' the original spelling. This was shortened to Mohave.

"Kit Carson, Jedediah Smith, the first Mormon invaders and the earliest settlers, all passed along the Mohave trail, to the turn-off that led them into the valley of the San Gabriel by the Cajon Pass. Ahead of them had come the Spanish legions over the southern trail from Mexico.

**Now Dry Lakes**

"Goin" still farther back into ancient history, there was a time when the Mohave formed a chain of lakes along its course. They are dry lakes now, but they must have been of considerable size in the long ago—Manix Lake, Mohave Lake, Soda Lake, Silver Lake, all were connected on the one-hundred and fifty mile length of the river from the snowy slopes of the San Bernardinos to the Armagosa at the southern end of Death Valley."

The Old-Timer paused here to relight his pipe and to replenish the low-burned fire. I knew there was more to come.

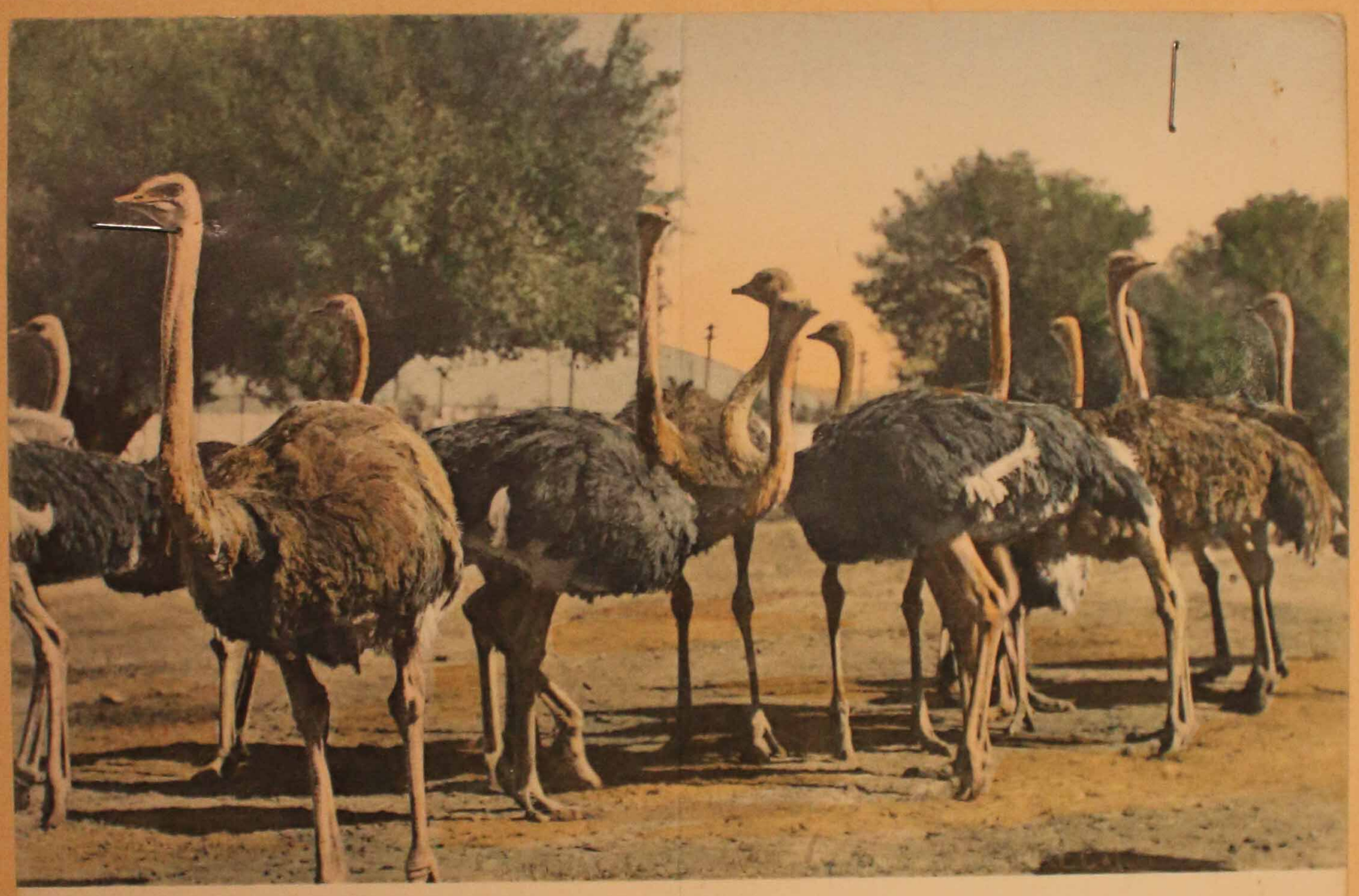
**Keeps Secrets**

"Yes, sir, mister," he at length resumed, "this old Mohave ain't tellin' her secrets. Her profoundest mysteries will never be solved. Geologists come out here, search and dig, and unearth the fossil remains of mastodons, camels an' the ancient three-toed horse; prospectors an' treasure-hunters, such as I, spend their lives lookin' for gold. Trails and roads and highways are stretched into its wastes; men come and go—but Old Lady Mohave lives on and on, holding her choicest mysteries locked in her heart. That accounts for the desert's fascination. It typifies life. It's an unsolvable mystery.'"

Sanger grape vine in the World

San Gabriel

Courtesy Mrs Collins



Cawston Ostrich Farm, California.

Copyrighted Feb. 1899 by Wm. Graham.

This ostrich farm was once a "must See"
to all persons on their first visit to California

Courtesy of Mrs Collier

Residence of Paul de Longpre

Courtesy of Mrs Cullen

Pigeon Ranch in California

This pigeon farm was
destroyed by flood in 1913

Courtesy of Mrs Cullen

Arcadia Tribune + News

# History of News Told History Club Members

News of the news proved highly interesting as it was presented to the history section of the Woman's Club by the guest speaker, Mr. W. R. Humphries, of Pasadena, on Oct. 25. Especially qualified, educationally, and by contacts here and abroad, the speaker was well received. In part his report covered the Gazettes, popular medium in 1457 for the "advancement of person, place and endeavor," and included the English Weekly News which displayed the Gazette and was in turn replaced by the coffee shops in 1632.

The "shops" were replaced in time by women's clubs and men's organizations. Even as far back as 1690 efforts were made to limit the freedom of the press, but to little avail. The beloved Digest of the present is really not a new endeavor, according to Mr. Humphries, but harks back to the 1700's. Winchell too is a copyist.

Rationing appeared in 1776, music "made" the news columns as late as 1833, shortage of paper caused woe in 1757, wallpaper had to replace newsprint in the Civil War, Boston papers came "round the horn" full of worries in '48 and '49 because the country was being "flooded with gold."

Printed in Spanish and English, northern California boasted of San Francisco and Monterey newspapers which used two v's to form W's Voters were purchased as long ago as 1850 . . . some for a kiss, some for a dollar each.

**Reminiscent**

More reminiscent reporting disclosed that "The Drunkard," long time showing in Los Angeles now, was coincided with Barnum's shows. Illustrations made their bow in 1875. Children's efforts as publishers began during the 1800's.

Short reports on The Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Chicago Daily News, Honolulu Star, Chicago Tribune, were included.

Tea was served later by Mmes. John Renshaw and Vanderbur to members present including Mmes. Nichols, Rubottom, Reynolds, Crane, Reiss, Schwartzkopf, Gamroth, Ganther, Crellin, Miller, Rogers, Timerhoff.

"The Rancho and Women of California," will serve as text for the next session. Mrs. S. Reiss was appointed as clipping book chairman.

Arcadia Tribune + News

# History Section To Hear Talk on Old Newspapers

History and Landmarks Section of the Arcadia Woman's Club, will hold it's first meeting of the season at the clubhouse, Oct. 25, at 1:30 o'clock.

Mr. W. R. Humphries of Pasadena will be the speaker of the day, and is scheduled to give an interesting talk on early historical newspapers of California.

Refreshments will be served, with Mmes. John Vanderbur and John Renshaw acting as hostesses.

Every club member is urged to attend.

## HISTORY AND LANDMARKS SECTION WILL MEET

California History and Landmarks section of the Arcadia Woman's Club will meet at 1:30 p. m. at the Clubhouse on Wednesday, Nov. 22. Mrs. Johu Vandebur will speak on the origin of the American Indian. Mrs. Fred Gamroth has prepared an article on the San Bernardino Rancho. Mrs. Reis and Mrs. Duffy will be hostesses and all members are invited.

## *California Section*

The California History and Land-Mark Section of the Arcadia Woman's Club will meet at the Club House at 12 noon Feb. 28. Mrs. Ethel Rubottom will be in charge of the program with Mrs. Ethel Rogers and Mrs. Dorothea Gamroot the hostesses for the day.

Dessert and coffee will be served. Each member is asked to bring her own sandwiches.

# California History, Landmarks Group Fetes Club With Colorful Program

Senoritas in Spanish shawls, mantillos, red roses and dangling earings, added atmosphere to the colorful celebration that marked the tenth anniversary of the California History and Landmarks Section of the Woman's Club, Wednesday, Jan. 3, in the clubhouse.

Mrs. John Renshaw, chairman of the section, presided over the day's program during the luncheon and early afternoon. She was introduced by the club president, Mrs. Harry Russell, after her introductory greetings to club members, and the presentation of new members and guests of the day.

Luncheon tables were decorated with sprays of California oranges and tangerines with their leaves.

Honored guests seated at the President's table besides Mmes. Russell and Renshaw were Mmes. Horace S. Nichols, Fred M. Gamroth, John Vanderbur, B. E. Rubottom, officers of the section; Mrs. Charles Hoover, a past chairman, and Mrs. Charles Stewart, past club president under whom the section was formed with Mrs. E. E. Timerhoff, as its first chairman.

Mrs. Horace Nichols presented in "Ten Stepping Stones of California History and Landmarks Section," the story of the section during the past ten years, revealing a most interesting period of adventure into the past of California, through study and treks to historic spots made by the section. The usual spirited club sing preceeded the luncheon with Mrs. Charles Lumpkin leading, and Mrs. Le Roy Anderson accompanying at the piano, in the songs suggestive of old Spain.

Mrs. Nichols and Mrs. Renshaw paid special tribute to Mrs. Timerhoff for her six years of capable leadership of the section.

Floretta Cortez, dancer, and Roberta Strong, pianist accompanist, were accomplished artists who completed the festive Spanish program with dances and piano numbers. Miss Cortez appeared in several gorgeous costumes adding beauty to her artistic dancing.

Miss Thais M. Plaisted of Los Angeles, lecturer on American history and government, and art topics, was the program speaker introduced by Mrs. Renshaw. Statues placed in California historic spots were accounted for at length by the speaker who was well versed in her subject.

# Monrovia-Duarte Landmarks Are Sought

MONROVIA, July 29.—Persons knowing the location of any historical landmarks in the Monrovia- Duarte area today were asked by Chamber of Commerce officials to notify E. J. Simonds, Chamber secretary.

The Historical Landmarks Association of Los Angeles County has asked the Chamber to secure the information. The location of such landmarks will be listed in a statewide directory.



# History, Landmarks Section Will Meet

The California History and Landmarks Section of the Arcadia Women's Club will meet in regular session on Wednesday, Jan. 24, at the clubhouse, at 12 o'clock. Members are asked to bring their own sandwiches and dessert and coffee will be served.

A round table discussion in Indians will be the topic for the program. Mrs. Charles Cruellin and Mrs. H. E. Reis will act as hostesses for the day.

Timerhoff,
At7-2593

April 12-'45

Los Angeles California History & Landmarks Club

Answering an invitation to be a guest of honor at the April Session of the L.A.California & Histpry Club, last Thursday, in Plumer Park, Hollywood I found Dr.Rockwell D.Hunt giving a paper on The Famous Women of California Mrs Curtis presiding and Mrs. Bertha Fuller, acting chairman presenting we notables--I having been a president two yers during the past.

Dr.Hunt first paid tribute to the unsung heroine Mothers of early day, whose name was Legion; Mothers who were pioneers, raising families for future California citizens; assisting husbands in their care and progress; traiing Youth for adult abilities; establishing Law and Order etc. Then in sequence he mentioned many women, noted for their various excellencies. Among these were the beautiful Concepcion; Coolbrith the poet; Mary Austin, Yale lecturer and woman of genius; Kate Douglas Wiggin, teacher of Kindergarten, writer, pianist and vocalist, Ambassador to England; Jessie Fremont, whose rare ability was somewhat lost sight of because of the fame of her husband, John C., but who shone not only in America, but in England at the Court of St.James. She was the fairy godmother of Brete Harte and friend of Charles Lummis. Eliza Otis of "Los Angeles, where sets the Sun." Gertrude Thomas, "Queen of Operatic Song" called so in Europe, and traveled with Patti; Ernestine Schuman-Heink Mother of many children, and vocalist supreme, Austrian-American. Mdme Tetrazzi who in 1910 sang in San Francisco one night in an open stage, being heard for 5 blocks, a radiant personality; Mdme Modjeska, "greatest tradgean," Polish-American with a Forest of Eden near Anaheim for years, but who died in the East. Mary Anderson, an ideal Juliet, a friend of Longfellow, and leading American actress. At this juncture, a voice rang out: "the President has died!" Dr.Hunt stopped and a shocked silence reigned until the club president called all to their feet, with heads bowded in obeisance to this direful news. The members and guests gathered in the patio for brief interchange of sympathy later, dispersing quietly.

Arcadia Tribune and News

## Mrs. Timmehoff Program Speaker At History and Landmarks Section

The California History and Landmarks Section of the Arcadia Woman's Club, met in regular session at the clubhouse, Wednesday April 25.

After an enjoyable luncheon the business meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mrs. John A. Renshaw. Mrs. E. M. Timerhoff was the program speaker. She told of a visit made to the historic Vallejo home a few years ago, the place was called "Lachryma Mantis," "tear of the mountain," and was built in 1850.

Many of the famous relics which are on exhibition at the old home were described by Mrs. Timerhoff. General Vallejo was a man of outstanding fine qualities. He appreciated more than any other of the early pioneers the rights of the Indians, and thus was able to make peace between many factions and the Indians.

Mrs. John Vanderbur read Mrs. Timerhoff's report of a talk on "Famous Women of early California," which was given at the April meeting of the California History and Landmarks Club of Los Angeles. This meeting was held at its headquarters in Hollywood in Plumer Park. A few of the early day women mentioned were the beautiful Concepcion, Kate Douglas Wiggins, teacher of kindergarten and author, Eliza Otis, and Madam Madjeska, the great tragedienne, whose California home was situated in Santiago Canyon in Orange county.

Besides those already mentioned the following members attended the meeting, Mmes. Charles Crellin, Susan Reiss, G. Thomas, H. S. Schwarzkopf, Fred Gamroth, John Rogers, F. K. Kingsley, Frank Falconer and E. L. Percy.

**Mrs. E. E. Timerohff,** 321 Genoa street, attended as an honor guest last Thursday, the April session of the California History Club of Los Angeles of which she used to be president, at Plummer Park, Hollywood.

Dr. Rockwell H. Hunt, guest speaker on a very interesting program, was interrupted in the midst of his talk on "Famous Women of California," by the sad news of President Roosevelt's death. The audience rose to their feet and bowed their heads in silent prayer, after which the meeting was adjourned.

## History Section Will Meet April 25, at Noon

The California History and Landmarks Section of the Arcadia Woman's Club, will meet for their regular session at the clubhouse, April 25, at noon.

Following the business meeting, Mrs. E. E. Timerhoff will be the speaker on the program.

Every member is asked to bring her own sandwiches. Dessert and coffee will be served.

Arcadia Tribune and News

## History Section Has Luncheon

The California History and Landmarks Section of the Arcadia Women's Club met on Wednesday, Feb. 28, at the clubhouse, with Mrs. John A. Renshaw, chairman, presiding. Luncheon was enjoyed at noon with Mrs. Emma Rogers and Mrs. Dorothea Gambroth as hostesses.

During the business meeting 20 members answered the roll call, many responding by reading newspaper clippings pertaining to both early and present California history.

Mrs. Ethel Rubottom had charge of the program which followed the business meeting and read an interesting paper on Jedediah S. Smith, Pathfinder of the Pioneers. He was one of the earliest explorers and fur trappers and his routes were all well planned and organized. His exploits, which covered a period from 1827-31, opened up an entirely new epech in California history.

Mrs. Renshaw spoke, briefly, on the subject, "Corn and Early American Civilization" taken from the February "National History" magazine.

**California History and Lanksmarks Section** will hold its regular meeting at the clubhouse at noon on May 23. A full attendance is desired as an election of officers for the coming year is to be held. Hostesses for the day will be Mrs. R. H. Schwarzkopf and Mrs. E. L. Perry.

Hotel Raymond, Pasadena, California.

Los Angeles Times

# Bandini Tombstone Now Used in Printer's Office

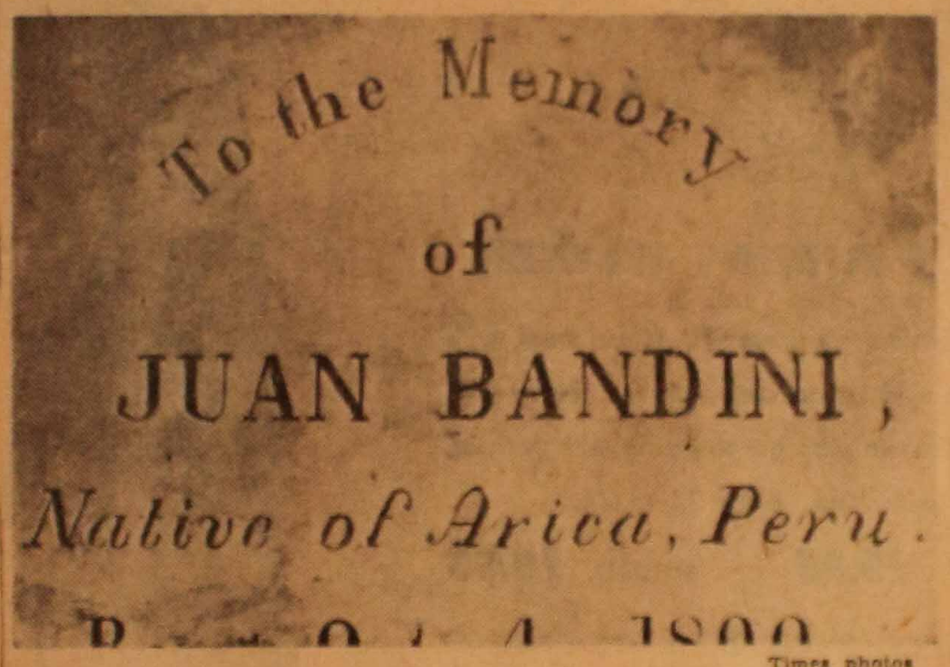
This is the story of a tombstone.

It's the story of how a slab of Italian marble which once decorated the grave of one of early California's wealthiest and most picturesque characters became a printer's stone.

Now it undergoes a daily beating from inky steel chases and type slugs in the shop of the Southwest Builder and Contractor at Second and Hill Sts.

For the first time in decades 92-year-old Harry Iles, publisher of the magazine, turned the stone upside down yesterday for a Times photographer and showed the inscription on the face:

*"To the Memory of Juan Bandini, Native of Arica, Peru. Born Oct. 4, 1800."*




Times photos

**OUT OF THE PAST**—This is the memorial stone used as top of the table on which forms are setting. Solid marble, it survived. The Times dynamiting and cost Iles $9.

A century ago Don Juan Lorenzo Bruno Bandini owned ranches scattered between Los Angeles and San Bernardino and southward to San Juan Capistrano — countless thousands of acres.

A descendant of Spanish aristocracy, he came to San Diego in the early 1820's and soon launched a career in politics.

California histories are punctuated with passages on his work as a member of the Territorial Assembly, how he tried to make Los Angeles the capital of Alta California in 1827, how he was a leader in the 1831 insurrection against Gov. Victoria and two years later went to Mexico City as a member of Congress.

His social career paralleled his political battles against oppressive laws and corrupt administrators.

Gov. Juan Bautista Alvarado made him administrator of San Gabriel Mission in 1838-40 and began granting him ranchos—Jurupa (the original name of Riverside) in 1838, Rincon and Cajon de Muscupiaibe in 1839 and other lands extending to San Juan Capistrano in 1841. In 1848 Don Juan became Alcalde (Mayor) of San Diego.

**Slab 'Just Right'**

Upon his death in 1859 he was buried in the old Calvary Cemetery on N. Broadway. This cemetery was condemned in 1896 and his remains were moved to a more ornate memorial in the new Calvary Cemetery on Whittier Blvd.

Somehow Don Juan's original tombstone had been broken. The upper portion, a solid piece 33x50 inches, was acquired by a marble dealer on E. Ninth St.

Publisher Iles yesterday recalled his woes of 1898-99. "I was hunting marble for a printer's stone but dealers had nothing, only light pieces an inch thick. These wouldn't stand the pounding. Finally I ran across this tombstone, priced at $9. It was just right — about two inches thick."

Iles moved the stone into his own shop. In 1910 this was just north of the old Times Building on Broadway. When The Times was dynamited the tremendous explosion shattered everything and fire gutted Iles' shop. Don Juan's marble memorial was an ironic survivor. There it stood—a tombstone among the dead.

Iles' shop was moved subsequently to Second and Hill Sts. There yesterday he recited an epitaph for the tombstone itself:

"Like the people of its day, this stone is rugged. It looks good for a century more."

Collection of Mission Indian baskets in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Johnson, United States government Indian agent now at Pala

# Romance of *Indian Basketmaking*

BY WILLIAM LINDSAY

PALA Indian Reservation, 25 miles northeast of Oceanside in San Diego County, is the home of the Cupa or Cupeño Indians, one of the few remaining Indian tribes in California. Its famous chapel is the only old mission chapel in California with an Indian village still around it.

Many of the Indians at Pala still speak their native dialect but unfortunately, due to modern economic conditions, the fine old native crafts of basketmaking, pottery and weaving are being neglected. One woman, however, Mrs. Salvadora Valenzuela of the Cupeño tribe, still takes an interest in basketmaking and has taught her daughter, Mrs. Katherine Majado, the art.

The living room of their home at Pala is decorated with fine specimens of Indian basketry, many of which they have made themselves. Mrs. Valenzuela explained the making of Indian baskets, the reeds and fibers used and the time of year when they had to be gathered.

Reeds and grasses used in making Indian baskets depended essentially upon the vegetation of the country in which the tribe lived. From Alaska to the Southwest the primitive Indian women were remarkably clever and active in searching for and selecting them. They wandered along the river banks through the valleys, in the desert areas and up to the snow line on the high mountains in search of rare reeds and grasses which they wove into their baskets.

The coiled basket was the type generally made by the Mission Indians of Southern California. They also used a coarse form of opened twine weaving in making baskets for winnowing seeds. In making the coiled basket the Cupa Indians used deer grass, called "sou-le" in the Indian dialect, for the filling on which the coil was wound. For the coil they used the juncus rush, the Indian name of which is "saw-yel." They also used sumac, or "sah-ha-vish," as Mrs. Valenzuela called it in her native dialect. The thin splints of the sumac made a fine coil wrapping, or stitch as it is termed. The stems of the juncus rush grow in a variety of colors, from cream white to dark brown and red. The natural quality of the reed was readily utilized by the Indian basketmakers to create the mottled design shown in Mrs. Valenzuela's basket. The only color which they could not get naturally was black, so to obtain it the juncus rush was buried in the ground, covered with mud, leaves and, in later days, scrap iron, and left there for several days until it had received a deep black stain.

Grasses and reeds were gathered when they had attained their full growth and before the sap had turned to wood. The deer grass was gathered in July and August, the sumac in the fall and the juncus rush in March. They were all split, cleaned and steeped in water to make them pliant before being used.

AFTER the bark and pith of the sumac had been removed, in the early days, it was pulled through a perforated piece of bone to give the thread the required fineness. Mrs. Valenzuela had a small lid of a metal can perforated with a series of holes of varying sizes through which she pulled the sumac until she had a fine, even thread.

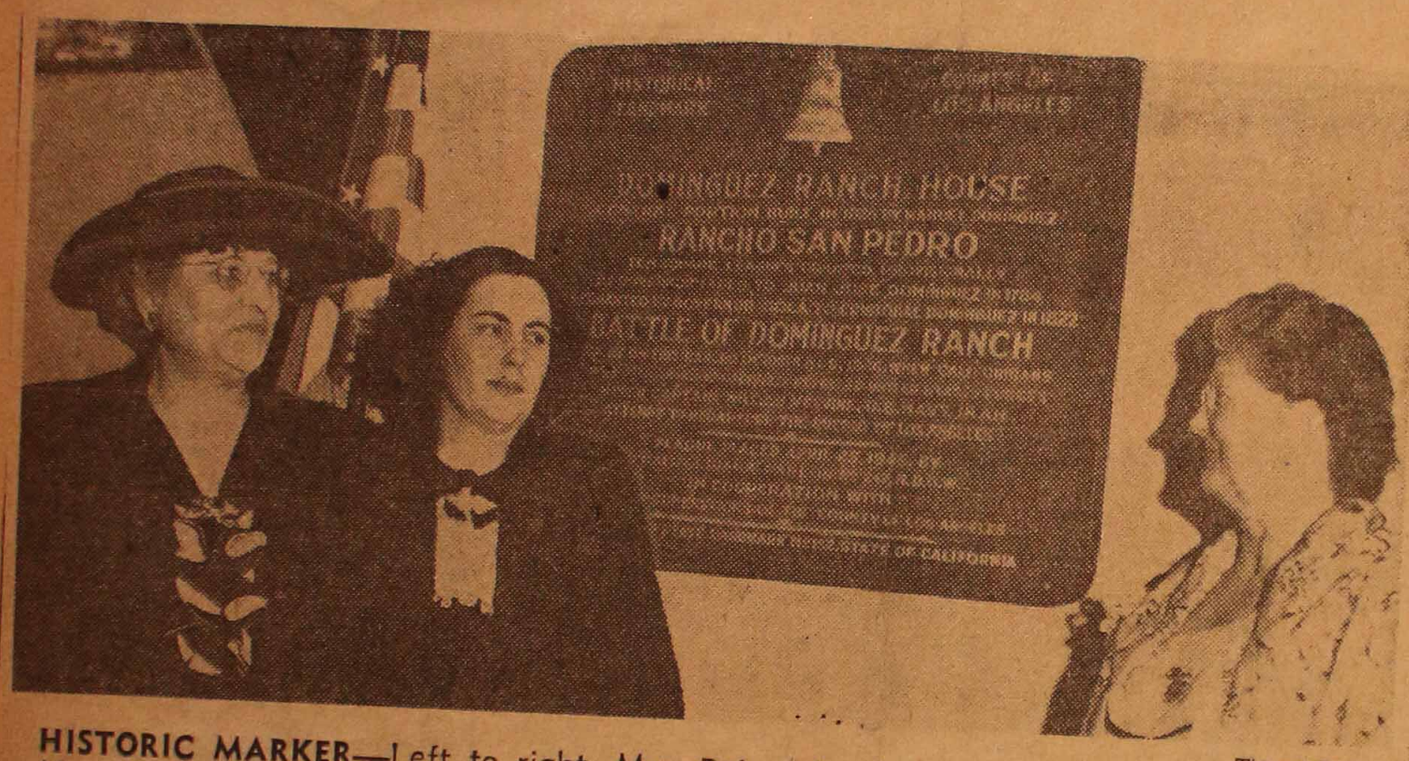
In making the coiled basket several strands of deer grass, softened in water, were spirally wrapped at one end with a splint of the juncus rush, or sumac. This wrapped portion was then wound upon itself, the outer coil as it was formed was sewn to the adjacent inner coil by passing the splint through a few of the upper strands of the filling of the inner coil. In the old days a bone awl, and in more recent times a bodkin, was used to perforate the filling so that the splint could be threaded through. The bottom of the basket was rounded upward and the sides were made by winding the coils higher.

Besides their use for gathering seeds, baskets were used for storage purposes. In Central and Northern California Indians used them for cooking meat and acorn bread. Water was boiled by dropping into the baskets hot stones which were lifted from the fire with two sticks used as tongs. Patterns woven in Indian baskets had a symbolic meaning, inspired by the Indians' contact with nature.

In these days of gasoline rationing it is not possible for everyone to visit the California Indian reservations. Those interested may ask, "Where can we study Indian relics and Indian baskets?" The Southwest Museum at Highland Park features the American Indian and the native arts and crafts of the Southwest.

Apache Indian basket of coiled work made for Indian's own use

Los Angeles Times




**HISTORIC MARKER**—Left to right, Mrs. Robert Lee Watson, Mrs. J. R. Lacayo and Mrs. Sinclair Carpenter view plaque unveiled in commemoration of early land grant to Juan Jose Dominguez family. It was placed on corner of ranch house.

Times photo

# Juan Dominguez Plaque Unveiled

A plaque commemorating the provisional land grant of "10 square leagues" made by Gov. Fages to Juan Jose Dominguez in 1784, the building of the Dominguez adobe ranch house by Manuel Dominguez in 1826 and the Battle of Dominguez Ranch fought between Californians and United States forces in 1846 was unveiled yesterday. It was placed on the corner of the ranch house, now a part of the Dominguez Seminary of the Claretian fathers.

The unveiling ceremony was attended by leading native Californians, county government officials and members of the Claretian community.

The plaque was made possible through the co-operation of the Historical Landmarks Committee of the Board of Supervisors and the California Parlor 247 of the Native Daughters of the Golden West.

Among those attending the ceremonies were Mrs. J. R. Lacayo and her mother, Mrs. Robert Lee Watson. Mrs. Lacayo is the granddaughter of Maria Do-minguez de Watson.